



# ST NICHOLAS CE PRIMARY SCHOOL

School Road, Hurst, Berkshire RG10 0DR

**NEWSLETTER 14 – 17<sup>th</sup> December 2020**



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## St Nicholas School Vision Statement

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



### Advent Prayer

Lord God, may we, your people who look forward to the birthday of Christ, experience the joy of salvation and celebrate that feast with love and thanksgiving.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen

## CHURCH SERVICE

**Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> December**

11:00am Messy Church Christingle Service

**Attendees must book in advance. Call Patsy Theobald on 01344 428525 or email [witsend50pat@gmail.com](mailto:witsend50pat@gmail.com)**

## SCHOOL CALENDAR

### December

Fri 18<sup>th</sup> Christmas Jumper Day (*voluntary cash donation to Save the Children*)

Fri 18<sup>th</sup> **Last Day of Term (staggered departure):**

**Infants: 1:20pm**

**Infants & Junior Siblings: 1:30pm**

**Juniors: 1:40pm**

Thu 24<sup>th</sup> Visit the Crib scene at St Nicholas Church between 12noon and 6pm. For a private 15-minute slot, use this link to book:

[www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/130608887699](http://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/130608887699)

Thu 24<sup>th</sup> Midnight Communion, 11pm at St Nicholas Church (*To book, please email Patsy Theobald [witsend50pat@gmail.com](mailto:witsend50pat@gmail.com)*)

Fri 25<sup>th</sup> Christmas Day Holy Communion, 11am at St Nicholas Church (*please book in advance – see above*)

### January

Mon 4<sup>th</sup> **INSET DAY - School Closed**

Tues 5<sup>th</sup> School reopens from 8:35/8:50/9am staggered

Wed 13<sup>th</sup> Year 2 Cycling course begins

Mon 18<sup>th</sup> PTA Non-Uniform Day

Thu 21<sup>st</sup> School Census

Fri 29<sup>th</sup> PTA Meeting via Teams, 9:30am

## GOLD AWARDS

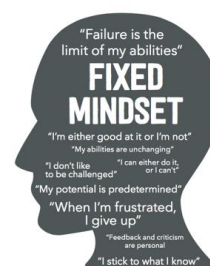
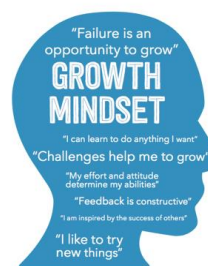


Congratulations to

**Lauren**

**in De La Mare class**

**who achieved a Gold Award**



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

**"I will honour Christmas in my heart, and try to keep it all year. I will live in the Past, the Present and the Future. The Spirits of all Three shall strive within me. I will not shut out the lessons that they teach."**

*Charles Dickens, A Christmas Carol*

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



Tomorrow marks the end of an Autumn term that will stay in everyone's memories. We all knew it was going to be different. We were also keen to promote as much 'normality' as possible for every pupil. I am keen to celebrate the amazing achievements that we all managed by working together and supporting one another in our small primary school. The PTA provided very similar *and additional* opportunities for the pupils as they always have: *two* discos, a non-uniform/Dare to be Different Day, a Christmas gift for all pupils (alas no Santa visit) and even class cake sale money (in the absence of actual cake sales!) On top of those opportunities, a hugely enjoyable Santa Dash. Thank you to everyone who ensured these events were successful and enjoyable for all pupils. The chance to purchase second hand uniform was also maintained throughout the term.

Our staff team were unrelenting in supporting all pupils and responding to individual needs academically and pastorally. I am grateful to Mrs Thomas for the dedication she has shown in teaching the year 4 pupils as a separate cohort in the school hall. We are delighted she is continuing to teach Science to the year 4 pupils next term.

We have maintained many of our end of term school traditions. The infants all experienced the opportunity to appear in a wonderful Nativity Show. The infant staff planned the events meticulously and the pupils performed amazingly well. The recordings provide a special memento for all families to share for years to come. We sang carols and made Christingles. The Caterlink lunch was enjoyed in classrooms and every child pulled a cracker provided by the PTA. Christmas Craft Day was a huge success and enjoyed by all the pupils. Thank you to all staff for planning and resourcing all of the fabulous activities.

Merits, gold awards and Stars of the week awarded on a weekly basis celebrated all the hard work pupils completed and the positive attitudes they have shown every day. These are linked to Growth Mindset and our school values – Respect, Friendship, Thoughtfulness and Perseverance. Attendance for both staff and pupils has been well above national averages during every week of the term. I am so grateful to everyone for ensuring our safety continues to be a priority and will continue to be our priority in January and throughout the Spring Term.

Looking forward, I hope everyone enjoys Christmas and New Year, which will again be 'different' as we embrace the uniqueness of festivities within 2020 guidelines!

I look forward to welcoming all pupils back to school on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2021.

**Stay safe everyone. Be thankful. Look out for one another.**

Miss McGrail



### **Christmas Jumper Day, TOMORROW - LAST DAY OF TERM**

Pupils are welcome to come to school wearing their most festive jumper to raise money for Save the Children! **They should wear jumpers together with their usual school uniform.** No PE kits needed, with the exception of Milne class who will be participating in a yoga session with Mrs Macleod so can Milne please wear their PE bottoms with their festive jumpers. Voluntary cash donations welcome.

### **Wraparound Care from Summer Term 2021**

We are pleased to announce that we have confirmed plans for a wraparound care provision (breakfast and after school club) which will officially open after the Easter break from 19<sup>th</sup> April 2021. This service will be run by an external provider, BA Sports [www.basportstar.co.uk](http://www.basportstar.co.uk) and offer a range of activities including active play, crafts, board games etc. BA Sports have run many clubs at our school over the past year and currently run several activity and wraparound care clubs in and around the area. Information on how to book sessions with BA Sports will be communicated in the coming months. We are still finalising the finer details of the service and we will continue to keep parents updated; there is now a dedicated page on our website to facilitate this. This provision will be open to all pupils of St Nicholas CE Primary School during term time and will be based in the School Hall with the use of the outside play area and field.



BA SPORTS

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

### **Christmas Nativity**

Last Friday Milne, Donaldson and De La Mare classes performed their 'bubble' Nativity plays. It was wonderful to experience the children's enthusiasm and joy as they acted, danced and sang. The plays were filmed and shared with parents for their enjoyment at home.



### **Carol Service**

On Monday, the Junior pupils braved the weather and sang carols in the playground and re-told the Christmas story. Well, we actually sang one carol and then retreated to a well-ventilated school hall to stand around the periphery in our class bubbles! The rain got quite heavy. Longfellow pupils spoke clearly and everyone sang carols and Christmas songs; including 'We three Kings', 'Bumpy Journey', 'No Room at the Inn' and 'Love Shone Down'. Thank you to Mr Butler-Willis for co-ordinating the service.

All children made a Christingle to bring home to celebrate Jesus as light of the World. Thank you to Reverend Anna Harwood and Ele Buckley for recording a special Christingle Service for all the pupils to watch during the week.



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

### Christmas Craft Day

As with everything this year, we have had to be creative with how we deliver some events, and our exciting festive traditions are no different! Each year we look forward to, and enjoy, our Christmas Craft Day. This year we stayed in our class bubbles but we still participated in the tradition! Each class prepared three craft activities, which included a Christmas card, a decoration and an edible treat! While we were unable to invite parent helpers to join in the day, and unable to mix classes, we still were able to enjoy the festive music and wear our festive attire while we got creative. We really hope the children enjoyed their Christmas Craft Day with a Difference!



**Sammy** (TS Eliot) is the star player for the second week running with certificates for most accurate answers, most coins earned and greatest improvement in speed. Well done also to **Archie W** (Longfellow) who was the most accurate player.

Similarly, in Numbots, **Otto** (De La Mare) continues to excel. This week he has earned certificates for correct answers, most coins and most levels completed. Congratulations to **Sam** (Donaldson) who was the most accurate player.



## Christmas Lunch

Another Christmas tradition where the school usually enjoys coming together is the Christmas Lunch. Sadly, there were no group servings of hot roast turkey or teachers singing in the dining hall this year. Instead, we celebrated in our class bubbles with Christmas music and a special festive packed lunch. We pulled crackers, shared jokes and joined our friends for a festive lunch with a difference!



## STARS OF THE WEEK!

- KS1** Stars of the Week: All the children in **Milne**, **De La Mare** and **Donaldson** class received a Star of the Week award for their hard work in giving an amazing nativity performance this week.
- YEAR 3** Stars of the Week: **Noah** for tremendous work in English and **Violet** for working really hard all week.  
Merits: **Nathan** for showing Growth Mindset by working hard in English, **Martha P** for perseverance by working extremely hard in English and **William** for respect by always being on task in every lesson.
- YEAR 4** Stars of the Week: **Toby** for amazing work story writing and broadening his knowledge of polygons.  
Merits: **Henry** for perseverance by sticking to the task set in English.
- YEAR 5** Stars of the Week: **Max** and **Jake** for devouring four reading books in 1 week.  
Merits: **Ollie** and **Elliot** for friendship and positivity.
- YEAR 6** Stars of the Week: **Jacob** and **Sophie** for outstanding teamwork on engineering their periscope model.  
Merits: **Roxy** and **Ayla** for respect at all times.

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



**The PTA require new volunteers to join the team.**

**Please come forward for a chat with Mike Rand or Louise Gawthorn if you can help!**



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