



ST NICHOLAS CE PRIMARY SCHOOL

School Road, Hurst, Berkshire RG10 0DR

NEWSLETTER 18 – 4th February 2021



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 to their YouTube Channel.

'Happy Birthday' to pupils and staff who are celebrating a birthday next week (8th – 14th February)

Henry – Reception
Ted – Year 3
Sean and Sammy – Year 6
Mrs Mitchell



From Miss McGrail, and all the staff, governors, pupils and parents in our school family.

SCHOOL CALENDAR

February

15th - 19th

HALF TERM

Tues 16th

Shrove Tuesday

March

Mon 8th

School re-opens to all pupils (To be confirmed subject to Government guidance)



This week's Growth Mindset thought...

"An optimist is the human personification of Spring."

Susan J. Bissonette

Our School Values: Respect, Thoughtfulness, Perseverance, Friendship

Jacob's Read-a-thon

Jacob in Blake class recently took part in a Readathon to raise money for the NSPCC. He totalled a whopping 8 hours of reading and raised a total of **£236!** Amazing achievement – Well done Jacob!



'Thank You' from Mrs Lynch

Mrs Denise Lynch was delighted with the cards, messages (including video messages) and flowers she received to mark her 30 years' service. She even received a message from a current parent who remembers Denise supervising her during lunchtime here at St Nicholas School a 'few' years ago. Denise has asked that we send her heartfelt thanks to everyone.



Staff News



Congratulations to Mr Dale Godden who has successfully secured a Schools Direct teacher training placement from September 2021. This means he will spend the year training in two different Primary schools, with St Nicholas as his host school. Mr Godden joined us in November and has been working as a 1:1 Teaching Assistant in Longfellow class. He clearly has a passion and flair for teaching as many pupils in Longfellow will confirm. Mr Butler-Willis and Mrs Rudd have enjoyed working with Mr Godden. We are delighted he has chosen St Nicholas as his host school. We wish you the very best of luck Dale!



Well done to **Lucas G** (Longfellow) who earned the most coins and correct answers this week. Congratulations also to **Jayden** (TS Eliot) who had the greatest improvement in speed and to **Alex** (Longfellow) who increased his accuracy. **Bram** (Blake) has achieved Rock Legend status. Fantastic!

There has been great work from KS1 and EYFS who continue to excel on Numbots. This week's stage certificates are awarded to the following children: **Ethan** (De La Mare) – Brass; **Eva** (Donaldson) – Copper; **Felix** (De La Mare) – Copper; **Frankie** (De La Mare) – Copper; **Lola** (TS Eliot) – Iron; **Mena** (De La Mare) – Copper and **Noah** (De La Mare) – Brass. Well done all!



Frankie earned the most coins and moved up the most levels whilst **Archie R** (Donaldson) was the most accurate player. Well done also to **Arthur** (Milne) who had the greatest increase in correct answers.



Woodley Festival of Music & Arts 2021... Online!

The online festival provides a warm and friendly environment to perform before a professional adjudicator and a supportive audience. Entries now open until 19th February and the deadline for recorded submissions is 2nd April. For more information on how to get involved and to download the 2021 Woodley festival syllabus, please visit www.woodleyfestival.org.uk

Talking Therapies is a free NHS service here to support the residents of Berkshire aged 17+ who may be struggling with difficulties including: low mood, anxiety and stress at this unprecedented time. They are currently offering a 4-week Stress Less course which you can access via the comfort of your own home. Please see attached leaflet for more information. If you would like to book onto the next available course please visit:



<https://talkingtherapies.berkshirehealthcare.nhs.uk/stress-less-workshops/>. To find out more about the services offered by Talking Therapies please visit their website <https://talkingtherapies.berkshirehealthcare.nhs.uk/>

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Children's Mental Health Week – Express Yourself

This week I invite you to watch this short message from the Duchess of Cambridge. Her words fit perfectly with the messages I have been sending home the last few weeks. The Duchess highlights the crucial need for parents and carers to look after their own mental wellbeing, and the impact that this has on the children in their care.

The theme for this year's Children's Mental Health Week is 'Express Yourself' and focuses on the creative ways children and adults can share feelings, thoughts or ideas through art, music, writing, poetry, dance, drama, photography and film, or just doing activities that make them feel good. <https://youtu.be/PEBURwEL9HM>

This week, if the children would like to photograph or compile a very short film of them "expressing themselves", please email them to me at senco@st-nicholas.wokingham.sch.uk and I will put together a short compilation of their creations.

Sarah Hilling, SENCo

[Children's Mental Health Week 2021 - a message from our Royal Patron](#)



Please find below some resources which have been produced specifically for parents and carers of young children to support this important aspect which sadly affects as many as 1 in 10 young people.

[Talking to my child - mindedforfamilies.org.uk](http://mindedforfamilies.org.uk)

[Advice for parents and carers - Talking mental health primary school - Anna Freud Centre](#)

[Parent leaflet - Time-to-change.org.uk](http://time-to-change.org.uk)

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PTA NEWS UPDATE

Hello everyone, thanks to everyone who attended the PTA meeting last week. Great ideas were shared and discussed for raising money for the PTA, as the current climate means we are not able to go ahead with our traditional ways of raising funds.

Dates for your Diary

Due to the current pandemic, we are limited to the events we can run to raise funds for the school.

- February - Pancake Art Challenge - date TBC
- 4th March - World Book Day
- March - Spring Virtual Disco - date TBC



Please support us by selecting us as your chosen charity, St Nicholas Hurst PTA.

<https://smile.amazon.co.uk/ch/1002238-0> It's quick and easy to do!

Once signed up, shop on Amazon as normal and Amazon will donate 0.5% of purchases towards the PTA.



Choose your favourite charity

Thousands of local and national charitable organisations.



Shop at smile.amazon.co.uk

Same products, same prices, same services as the Amazon you know.



Amazon donates to your chosen charity

Amazon will donate 0.5% of the price of your eligible purchases.



Easy Fundraising App <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/stnicholasprimaryhurst/>

Thank you to everyone who has already downloaded this app. It's simple and free to use! It has helped turn everyday shopping into free donations for the school.

If you haven't already done downloaded the app and would like some support in doing so, please talk to us or your class reps.