



ST NICHOLAS CE PRIMARY SCHOOL

School Road, Hurst, Berkshire RG10 0DR

NEWSLETTER 24 – 25th March 2021



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.

CHURCH SERVICE

Palm Sunday, 28th March

St Nicholas Church will be open for Private Prayer between 11:00am and 1:00pm. Individual palms will be available to take home.

On behalf of the staff and governors, we would like to wish you all a very happy Easter break..



SCHOOL CALENDAR

March

Sat 27th

'Your School Lottery' draw

Sun 28th

Palm Sunday

Clocks move forward 1 hour

Mon 29th

Year 6 Bikeability Level 3 Group 1

Tues 30th

Year 6 Bikeability Level 3 Group 2

Wed 31st

Last Day of Spring Term (staggered end):

Infants: 1:20pm

Infants & Junior Siblings: 1:25pm

Juniors: 1:30pm

April

Thu 1st

INSET DAY – school closed

Fri 2nd

Good Friday – school closed

Sun 4th

Easter Sunday

2nd - 16th

Easter Break – school closed

Mon 19th

School reopens – Summer term

Mon 19th

Start of Year 2 Cycling on Mondays (until May half term)

Thu 22nd

Year 4 Swimming Lessons commence - 6 week course. (see parent letter)

Tue 27th

BA Sport Football Club commences, 3:15pm

Fri 30th

BA Sport Multi-Sports Club commences, 3:15pm

RED NOSE DAY



Fundraising Update

Thank you to everyone who donated to our recent fundraising events. We have raised a total of **£133.76 for Red Nose Day** and **£107.42 for World Down Syndrome Day**.

REMINDER:

CLOCKS GO FORWARD on SUNDAY 28th MARCH

The start of British Summer Time is upon us! Don't forget that the clocks go forward one hour on Sunday at 1.00am.



Our School Values: Respect, Thoughtfulness, Perseverance, Friendship

Dear Parents and Carers

We are nearing the end of another rather unique term. After Easter we will be implementing a number of changes to enable hot lunches to be served and also for BA sports to provide after school care and sports clubs. Children will be taught in their classes for the majority of the time and in two bubbles – Infant and Junior at break and lunch times. This will encourage and allow for friendships to be re-established across classes. All staff will continue to take twice weekly lateral flow tests and this can also be taken up by families who would like to monitor their children's health. The purpose of this is to help identify anyone who is asymptomatic and will result in close contacts being asked to self-isolate for 10-day periods to limit the spread of the virus across the school and Hurst Community.

Infant and junior collective acts of worship will also take place in the hall rather than in classes.

We are delighted to continue to offer cycling training on Mondays to Year 2 (until May half term) and Year 6 pupils (after May half term) and tennis coaching to junior pupils. From Monday 19th April, PE days will be:

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Donaldson De La Mare (Cycling)	De La Mare Year 5 (tennis)	TS Eliot Longfellow	Milne Donaldson Blake (tennis)	Milne

Year 4 pupils will be participating in weekly swimming sessions on Thursday mornings at The Forest School for 6 weeks; Year 3 pupils will commence swimming after the May half term. We are hopeful the Year 6 residential visit to PGL in Dorset will go ahead on 14th June and further information will be communicated to parents after Easter.

I hope you enjoy a restful Easter break and I look forward to welcoming the children back to school on Monday 19th April.

Miss McGrail

Governing Body Update

Mike Jackson has now come to the end of his term of office on our Governing Body. We are very grateful to Mike for his hard work and leadership over the last 5 years, first of all as a Foundation Governor and more recently as Chair. I am pleased to announce that Mr John Rankin is taking on the role of Chair and Mr Ken Curry the role of Vice Chair. There are two vacancies on the Board for Parent Governors. Any parent who is interested in this role is asked to submit their nomination form, CV and short personal statement to the Clerk clerk@st-nicholas.wokingham.sch.uk by Friday 23rd April.

Celebrating World Down syndrome Day

We are all individual here and we celebrated that by wearing odd socks on Tuesday to raise money for this very worthy charity. Thank you to all who donated - **we raised a total of £107.42!**



Our School Values: Respect, Thoughtfulness, Perseverance, Friendship



BA SPORTS

Wrap-around Care Club

If you are intending to book for the Summer term, please **make a booking by the end of Thursday 25th March**. We will review the bookings on Friday 26th March; if there are insufficient bookings, we will defer the start of the Wraparound care club until September. The two Sports clubs (Football and Multi-Sports) will go ahead as planned.

All bookings must be made via BA Sports via their secure booking system. Please visit www.basportstar.co.uk and select 'Book Now' to create an account and add your child/ren. You may then book and pay for the required club/s. All the information can be also be found on the [Wraparound Care](#) page of the school website.

Caterlink Hot Lunch Menu – Summer Term

The Caterlink hot lunch menu for the Summer term is now available on the [School Meals](#) page of our website, along with guidance explaining the new process for ordering online. Children will eat in the Hall in separate Infant and Junior bubbles. Please ensure that lunch options are discussed with your child/ren prior to ordering as choices cannot be amended by the children at lunchtime. Parents who are not currently registered for a SCOPAY account have been sent an access code via email to set up an account. **For lunches required on Monday 19th April, orders must be placed by 11pm on Sunday 18th April.**

MERITS and STARS OF THE WEEK

(week ending 19th March)

INFANTS

Respect	Thoughtfulness	Growth Mindset	Perseverance	Friendship
	Chloe Elliot Zara Mena	Winnie Theo	Jack Samuel Frankie	
Stars of the Week: Sean, Ronnie, Poppy, Holly, Lacey and Clementine				

JUNIORS

Respect	Thoughtfulness	Growth Mindset	Perseverance	Friendship
Zoe	Robyn Sean Josie	Elliot Jannah Ariane Florence	Nathan	Myra
Stars of the Week: Oscar, Henry G, Violet B, Teigan, Freddie, Sammy and Harley				



Once again there is an almost complete whitewash by Year 2 in both TT Rock Stars and Numbots. What a fantastic effort from **Ethan, Leo** and **William** (all De La Mare) who have achieved Wannabe status! Well done also to **Bruno** (De La Mare) who had the biggest increase in correct answers this week, and to **Clementine** (De La Mare) who has the most improved speed. **Lacey** had the biggest improvement in accuracy whilst **Theo** (both De La Mare) had the greatest increase in coins earned.

In Numbots, well done to **Mena** (De La Mare) who completed Steel Stage and to **Arthur** (Milne) who has finished Copper Stage. Fantastic work also from **Noah** (De La Mare) who earned three certificates for the biggest increases in coins earned, accuracy and correct answers. Great work, Noah!



Our School Values: Respect, Thoughtfulness, Perseverance, Friendship



Easter Church Services at St Nicholas Church

St Nicholas Church will be open for Private Prayer on Palm Sunday, 28th March between 11:00am and 1:00pm. There will be a blessing of palms and St Mark Passion reading starting at 11am. Individual palms will be available to take home. Looking ahead to Easter Sunday, all being well

with infection rates we hope that St Nicholas Church will reopen for face-to-face worship on Easter Sunday 4th April, for Holy Communion service starting at 11:00am. If you wish to attend, please contact Patsy via email: witsend50pat@gmail.com or call 01344 428525. Please note that online services will still be available.

Volunteers Required

Are you available between 8.45am and 9.30am on a regular basis?

Maybe you are thinking of working with children in the future.

If so, would you like to help individual children progress in their phonics, maths, reading or spelling?

If you wish to get involved, please email
admin@st-nicholas.wokingham.sch.uk

Resources and basic training would be provided.



Helping Wokingham Families Find Local Fun

Wokingham Rocks is a free local resource especially designed to help families in the Wokingham area find activities, parks, walks and things to do together.



It has been put together over few months by a local mum of two, who wanted to create an online resource for families to find things to do to help make life easier during lockdown and beyond.

The website is split into categories such as Parks and Walks, and there are rainy day suggestions, craft activities and online classes listed too. It's searchable by day, category, age and more and aims to support parents with suggestions, inspiration, and the information they need without having to trawl the internet.

Visit www.wokinghamrocks.co.uk and follow them on social media @wokinghamrocks

Our School Values: Respect, Thoughtfulness, Perseverance, Friendship

Church Easter Trail: Friday 2nd – Monday 5th April in Twyford, Ruscombe & Hurst

This Easter, families are invited to visit all four of our churches when you take your daily exercise! Visit each churchyard between 2nd and 5th April to crack the Easter code, with clues hidden at St Mary's Twyford, St Nicholas Hurst, St James' Ruscombe and the Twyford URC on Station Road. Entry instructions will be available at each location. At St Mary's Twyford you'll be able to follow an outdoor egg poster trail all weekend. Visit between 10 and 12 noon on Friday to take part in our Covid-safe egg roll! At St Nicholas Church in Hurst our outdoor 'Muddy Church' trail will be available all weekend, and you can visit our Easter garden in church on Friday between 10 and 12 noon. Visitors are politely reminded to maintain social distancing whilst exploring our churchyards in your family or 'rule of 6' group! Find our Facebook event [here](#).



Church Easter Trail



Explore the Easter story on a
walk through our
beautiful churchyards.
2nd - 5th April

Visit all our churches over
the Easter weekend to crack
the Easter code, with clues
hidden at St Mary's, St
Nicholas, St James and the
Twyford URC on Station
Road!

St Mary's Twyford:
Follow the outdoor egg
poster trail all weekend.
Visit between 10 and 12
noon on Good Friday to
take part in our covid-
safe egg roll!

St Nicholas Hurst:
Outdoor 'Muddy
Church' trail available
all weekend, visit our
Easter garden in
church on Good Friday
between 10 and 12
noon.

Visitors are politely reminded to maintain social distancing whilst
exploring our churchyards in your family or 'rule of 6' group!
Thank you for helping us to keep everyone safe.
To find out more visit www.thru-christ.org.uk

Our School Values: Respect, Thoughtfulness, Perseverance, Friendship

PTA NEWS UPDATE

Hello everyone, the children are back at school and we have a 'Spring' in our step, as we look forward to coming out of Lockdown and running more activities in the coming months. Last week we had the school Virtual Disco with a great turnout and fun had by the children and parents. Thank you for taking part and a big thank you to Liz Cox for helping.

Hurst Village Easter Egg Hunt

We are delighted to host this Easter weekend (3rd & 4th April) an Easter Egg hunt in Hurst village. Many locations around the village will feature Easter egg decorations. All you have to do is walk around and try to find them all. You will need to buy a map for £3 either from the PTA (after school) next week or the village shop on the day, and locate as many of the locations as you can. Once you've finished the trail, collect your delicious chocolate reward donated kindly by Chocoholics. The event is social distancing friendly but we do ask that everyone follow the COVID-19 guidance when on the hunt.



Your School Lottery – Saturday 27th March

Don't forget we also run a weekly school lottery. This is a great way to support the school, whilst also giving yourself the opportunity to win some cash and other exciting prizes. Signing up is easy and can cost no more than £1 a week, so why not visit

www.yourschoollottery.co.uk/lottery/school/st-nicholas-ce-primary-school or www.yourschoollottery.co.uk/play and search for St Nicholas CE Primary School - you could be in with a chance of winning a jackpot of £25,000 with a guaranteed weekly prize for St Nicholas entrants which currently stands at £20. Congratulations to Nadia Crooks for winning a cash prize in last week's Your School Lottery draw. So please buy some tickets, if you haven't already done so. There is a guaranteed winner each week. Best of luck!

Crisp Packet Recycling

Currently the crisp packet recycling is suspended but potentially resumed for one day in the summer term. We will give further information when things have been confirmed.

PTA

Your PTA have continued throughout this term to support the school, finding ways to raise funds that can be used for our children and looking at ways of bringing our little community even closer together. If you'd like to get involved yourself or have any ideas you'd like to share with us, please contact Dee via email on stnicholashurstpta@outlook.com as we are still open for business!

Dates for your diary:

- **Saturday 27th March – Next 'Your School Lottery' draw**
- **Saturday 3rd – Sunday 4th April – Hurst Village Easter Egg Hunt**
- **Friday 14th May – PTA meeting 9:30am**
- **Date TBC – Non-uniform day**
- **Friday 28th May – Sponsored run**
- **Saturday 26th & Sunday 27th June - Hurst Show and Country Fayre 2021**
- **Date TBC – Summer Quiz**



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.



<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.

Our School Values: Respect, Thoughtfulness, Perseverance, Friendship