



ST NICHOLAS CE PRIMARY SCHOOL

School Road, Hurst, Berkshire RG10 0DR

NEWSLETTER 17 – 28th April 2022



The organic baby food co.

St Nicholas School Vision Statement

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

William makes Headlines

Well done and thank you to William VA in Longfellow who helped with a community litter pick, organised by Hurst Parish Council.

It's always inspiring to see our pupils caring about the environment in which they live and taking positive action.

You can read the news article here:

<https://wokingham.today/hurst-residents-keep-it-tidy/>



ST NICHOLAS HURST - CHURCH SERVICES

www.thru-christ.org.uk

www.achurchnearyou.com/stnicholashurst

Sunday 1st May	11am Holy Communion
Sunday 8th May	11am All-Age Service
Sunday 15th May	11am Holy Communion
Sunday 22nd May	11am Messy Church

EVENTS CALENDAR

April

Fri 29 th	Year 3 Swimming – First Session
Fri 29 th	Year 5/6 Girls Football Semi Final (invited pupils)

May

Mon 2nd	EARLY MAY Bank Holiday – School Closed
Thu 5 th	Little Wandle Phonics Parent Information Briefing (EYFS and Year 1), 5:30pm School Hall
Fri 6 th	PTA Quiz Night, from 7:30pm
Fri 13 th	Year 6 Visit to Dinton Pastures
Mon 16 th	EYFS Vision Screening - Visit by NHS
Thu 19 th	School Census - Summer Term
Thu 19 th	Tempest Photography – Class/Year Group Photo
Fri 20 th	Bag2School Collection
Tue 24 th	WW2 Workshop - Years 3/4/5
Thu 26 th	Sayers Croft Year 4 Parent Meeting, 5:30pm
Fri 27 th	Year 3 Swimming – Final (double) Session
Fri 27 th	Afternoon Jubilee Tea 2:15-3:15pm and Last Day of Half Term, 3:15pm finish

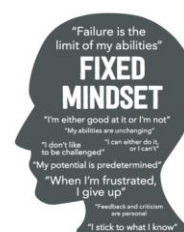
June

30 th -3 rd Jun	HALF TERM – School Closed, includes:
2 nd - 5 th Jun	Hurst Village celebrates the Queen's Platinum Jubilee www.hurst-jubilee.co.uk
Wed 8 th	Cycling commences for Years 3/4/5/6
Thu 16 th	Year 6 Activity Day
20 th - 22 nd	Year 4 Residential trip – Sayers Croft
Wed 22 nd	Year 5 Activity Day – Waterside Centre

Hurst Village Platinum Jubilee Celebrations Thursday 2nd- Sunday 5th June

www.hurst-jubilee.co.uk

To celebrate The Queen's historic 70 years as our Monarch, Hurst Parish Council will be organising many events over the extended bank holiday from Thursday 2nd to Sunday 5th June 2022. **Pupils from TS Eliot and Longfellow classes will be performing country dances on stage on Saturday at 3pm supported by Mrs Thomas.**



This week's Growth Mindset thought...

"Sometimes it is the people no one can imagine anything of, who do the things no one can imagine."
Alan Turing

Our School Values: Respect, Thoughtfulness, Perseverance, Friendship

Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome back to the Summer Term; the busiest and most exciting term of the year! The summer brings good weather (fingers crossed!) and good times. The children get to use all of the outside space available and outdoor learning can take place more easily. Embracing the varied areas of the school grounds brings enrichment to the children's learning. It also brings end of year celebrations of what the children have learned this year, recognising just how far we have come and where we move forward to next.

The calendar is packed with events from afternoon teas and platinum jubilee celebrations, family events, sporting and singing events, off site trips and visitors to school. More about all these and the calendar of events will be in the fortnightly newsletter and weekly bulletins, so please ensure that you read these to keep up to date. If you have any questions, please do speak to your class teachers, Mrs Crooks or myself.

Sarah Hilling, Acting Headteacher

Staffing Update – News from Mrs Holland

Following almost eight academic years at St Nicholas as Deputy Head, I am writing to let you know that I will be leaving to start a new role in September. I will be joining Purley C of E Primary School in West Berkshire as Headteacher.

There are many highlights that I will remember from my time at St Nicholas. Just a few of these include: organising the bicentenary celebrations in 2018, our annual Year 6 Hurst Show Maypole dances, accompanying several cohorts of Year 6 on their PGL residential; and sharing many 'lightbulb' moments during lessons with your wonderful children.

It has been a privilege to work with the wonderful team at St Nicholas: pupils, teachers, teaching assistants, support staff, governors, Church team and of course the parent community.

The decision to move on was a difficult one to make, but the chance to work at another lovely village school much closer to home, combined with a leadership role more compatible with our life as the expanded Holland family (now comprising of a 3 and a half year old and a 9 month old) is a wonderful opportunity for me. I'm really excited for this new beginning in September.

I will be returning from maternity leave to St Nicholas towards the end of this term. I look forward to being part of the end of term activities and festivities with you. Best wishes,

Amy Holland, Deputy Headteacher



Well done to **Leo** (TS Eliot) for achieving Rock Legend status and to **Amelia L** (Longfellow) for reaching Support Act.

During the last few weeks, **Amelia D** (TS Eliot) and **Amelia L** have had the greatest improvement in speed, and improved accuracy certificates go to **Rourke** (TS Eliot) and **Amelia L**. **Zoe** (Longfellow) and **Giovanna** (TS Eliot) have had the greatest improvement in correct answers and coins earned. Well done all!

In Numbots, the following children have successfully completed their next stage: **Annabelle** (Donaldson) – Tin; **Archie** (Donaldson) – Brass; **Jack** (Milne) – Carbon and Titanium; **Luna** (Donaldson) Chrome and **Xander** (Milne) – Glass. **Jack** and **Annabelle** have had the greatest increase in correct answers and coins earned whilst **Amelie J** (Milne) and **Emily R** (Milne) have improved their accuracy. Fabulous work, everybody!



It is lovely seeing you all back on the playground during pick up and drop off times. It is much safer to keep off the pavements outside the gates due to the nature of the busy road. However, we politely ask that if you come to school with your four-legged friend, please remain behind the school gates in sight of your classroom exit. Only

assistance dogs and those being used for educational purposes are allowed onto school premises. If you need to speak to your class teacher, please ask a friend to watch your dog while you come into school, for the safety of your dog, and others, please do not leave dogs tied up unattended.

Our School Values: Respect, Thoughtfulness, Perseverance, Friendship

Assembly

This week, Ele, Foundation Governor and church children's worker came in to do an assembly on the theme of 'He Is Risen'. She retold the story of doubting Thomas and his meeting with Jesus after the resurrection. Ele tried out a new story-telling technique using a painting board, a skill that the St Nicholas Messy Church Team have recently learnt.



Hurst Show & Country Fayre – Hobby Horse World Record Challenge

We are attempting to break a hobby horse world record.... but we can only do this with your help!

Hobby horses are now such a well-loved and integral part of the show that we decided to take the reins in attempting to break a Guinness World Record for "Largest Stick Horse Parade"!


Please read the documents attached with this newsletter for all the information you need!



Berkshire Maestros – Berkshire Young Voices Open Rehearsal

This is a free opportunity for pupils in Year 6, 7 and 8 to experience working with a high standard SSA choir directed by Chris Hann. The choir have had opportunities in the past to work with Bob Chilcott, the BBC Ten Pieces and as part of the CBeebies Prom.

BERKSHIRE
Maestros



BERKSHIRE YOUNG VOICES
OPEN REHEARSAL

Saturday 7th May

14:00pm-16:00pm

Prospect School Hall,
Cockney Hill, Tilehurst,
Reading RG30 4EX

To register
please


SCAN ME

For more information please email
emilyfreeman@berkshiremaestros.org.uk



Hurst Village Platinum Jubilee Celebrations Thursday 2nd – Sunday 5th June

Full schedule of events at www.hurst-jubilee.co.uk

To celebrate The Queen's historic 70 years as our Monarch, Hurst Parish Council will be organising many events over the extended bank holiday from Thursday 2nd June to Sunday 5th June 2022. Although the celebrations are during half term, we are encouraging families to attend and join in with the celebrations. **Pupils from TS Eliot and Longfellow classes will be performing country dances on stage on Saturday at 3pm supported by Mrs Thomas.**



Over the Jubilee period, the village will be able to join in with many exciting events which have been organised by the parish. All of the following information can also be found on their website www.hurst-jubilee.co.uk

A village treasure hunt will be run over the 4 days; everyone is invited to take part in this at their leisure.

If you have any comments or questions or would like to volunteer to help, please [contact](#) the Jubilee celebrations committee.

Thursday 2nd June – Jubilee Beacon

To commence the celebrations, families are invited to the community orchard on Church Hill from 8pm where there will be food and drink available. St Nicholas Church will be open appropriately decorated, the tower bells ringing that evening together with hand bells ringing out the national anthem and a piper playing "Diu Regnare". An 80 strong rock choir will be singing on the hill with a traditional choir singing 'A Life Lived with Grace.' The beacon will be lit at 9:45pm.

Friday 3rd June – Jubilee Sports Day

Numerous sporting events will be held throughout the day. Football, cricket, bowling and tennis starting with a HIIT exercise session to warm up.

Saturday 4th June – Jubilee Family Festival

Free outdoor event taking place on the green at Martineau Lane which will include games, a picnic, cream tea & scones, a licenced bar and BBQ. Hurst Air Scouts will be running a human hungry hippo game, we will also have bouncy castles, tug-o-war, an Aunt Sally game and a rocking gladiator duel. Pupils from St Nicholas Primary School will be performing on the stage. From 3.30pm there will be the [jubilee concert](#)

Sunday 5th June – Street Party

A church service will start the day at 11.00 am, followed by a large village jubilee street party. Organised visits to Stanlake Park Wine Estate will also be available in the late afternoon/evening.



Our School Values: Respect, Thoughtfulness, Perseverance, Friendship

Pilates



Place: St Nicholas CE Primary school

Day: Wednesdays 27th April-25th May 2022

Time: 6.30 pm – 7.30 pm

Cost: First session Free
£40 for the remaining 4 sessions

Mindful toning and flexibility exercises for the whole body. Based on the seven Pilates principles. Suitable for beginners and intermediates

What to bring

- A mat (1.5cm thick is best)
- A drink
- Clothes you can move in

Contact Zoe for further details and to register

Tel: 07503 966327

Email: loddonpilates@btinternet.com

PTA UPDATE



PTA Quiz Night – Friday 6th May. Bar opens 7.30pm. Quiz starts 8.00pm

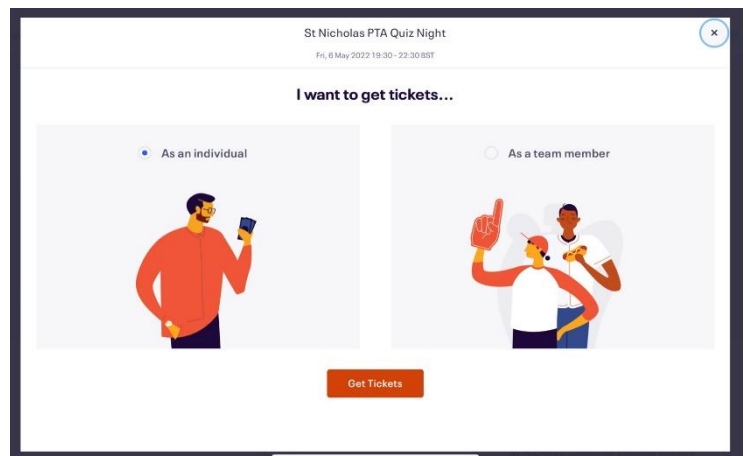
You have just a couple of days left to buy your tickets for the quiz night as we need to confirm numbers for food this weekend.

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/st-nicholas-pta-quiz-night-tickets-310034019097>

Fundraising events like this are vitally important for small schools like ours and need your support to be successful. Please rally your family and friends and come along if you can. It promises to be a fun and light-hearted evening with a very well stocked bar!

We could use some help after school pickup on Friday 6th May, moving adult sized tables from the village hall to the school hall. Please let us know if you can help, email simon@mythic-beasts.com or speak to a member of the PTA.

Tickets cost £16 each, to include a Mexican style meal. The main dishes will be gluten and dairy free and efforts will be made to cater for any other dietary requirements. We will have a bar which will be selling cocktails created by the school's own qualified mixologist along with beer and wine. You can enter as a team (max 8 people per team) or buy your tickets individually and form a team on the night. Buy your tickets now to avoid disappointment!



Bag2School Clothing and Textile Collection, Friday 20th May by 9:00am

This is a scheme to help raise funds for the school and it's a great way of clearing out your unwanted clothes and other items. The school receives money for the total weight of the goods received. Plastic sacks will be distributed to children to bring home in due course. Alternatively you can use your own bags which they will recycle. If you have unwanted good quality adult/children clothing, shoes (tied together), handbags, hats, belts, scarves, jewellery, soft toys, curtains, towels or bed linen, please pop them in a bin bag (or fill as many smaller plastic bags as you can!) and drop them off to the shelter area by the school hall on **Friday 20th May by 9am**. You can also drop off bags to the school office on the afternoon of **Thursday 19th May by 3.30pm**. *They do not accept duvets, blankets, pillows, cushions, rugs/mats, soiled/ripped clothing, school uniform with and without logos, or corporate clothing. For a full list of what is/is not accepted, please see <https://bag2school.com/what-we-collect>*



TS Eliot Class Cake Sale - Tuesday 5th April

Well done TS Eliot who raised £120 at their cake sale!

Easter Trail

A huge well done to all of you who completed the Easter trail, and thank you to Clare for organising and all those residents who put up the wonderful displays. £95 was raised for school funds!

PTA Future

At the moment there are five people who form the PTA committee, and to be honest we are struggling to do a good job because we all work full time and several of us have other voluntary roles too. We have advertised for help with the role of secretary and nobody has come forward.

The money we raise goes to the benefit of all our children, be it in the form of paying for a science teacher, buying new books or IT equipment, or money towards the maintenance of the school grounds in which our children play. I realise that everyone is busy these days but if you would be able to give a small amount of time, maybe just an hour a week to help write a newsletter or a few hours each term to minute the PTA meetings, or be part of the discussion around what we do, it would make a huge difference. We are very open to any suggestions and new ideas, please help lighten the load. We desperately need your help.

Dates for your Diary

- **Friday 6th May – PTA Quiz Night, School Hall**
- **Saturday 4th June – Queen's Jubilee Celebrations, Hurst's Got Talent**
- **Saturday 25th and Sunday 26th June – Hurst Show and Country Fayre**

Your School Lottery

Guaranteed winner from our community each week!

If you'd like to take part in our School Lottery, simply follow this link – Good Luck!

[Support St Nicholas CE Primary School when you play Your School Lottery - Your School Lottery](#)



Easy ways to support Fundraising for St Nicholas School

Tickets cost just £1 a week, and all profits go towards school funds. Guaranteed winner from our community each week. If you'd like to take part in our School Lottery, simply follow this link:

[Support St Nicholas CE Primary School when you play Your School Lottery - Your School Lottery](#)



Aren't we all online shopping these days? As well as being very convenient it can now earn funds for your favourite village school! Support us by selecting us as your chosen charity, St Nicholas Hurst PTA. It's quick and easy to do! smile.amazon.co.uk/ch/1002238-0 Once signed up, shop on Amazon as normal and Amazon will donate 0.5% of purchases to the PTA.



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.



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