



ST NICHOLAS CE PRIMARY SCHOOL

School Road, Hurst, Berkshire RG10 0DR

NEWSLETTER 1st – 8th September 2022



The organic baby food co.

St Nicholas School Vision

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

ST NICHOLAS HURST - CHURCH SERVICES

www.thru-christ.org.uk

www.achurchnearyou.com/stnicholashurst

Sunday 11th Sept No service at St Nicholas
Sunday 18th Sept 11am Holy Communion
Sunday 25th Sept 11am Messy Church

Welcome to our first newsletter of the academic year. In order to reduce the number of emails you receive, we will endeavour to ensure that as much information you need is included in these newsletters. Please take time to read and understand the information.

Please read on for:

Events Calendar

Message from the Head of School

NEW! Autumn Term Clubs

Clubs sign up information

School Lunch ordering

PE Days

Can you help?

PTA Update

Local News

EVENTS CALENDAR

September

Thu 15th EYFS Little Wandle Phonics Meeting, 5.30pm
19th – 23rd PGL Residential Trip – Year 6
Wed 21st IPP Parent Meetings (EYFS – Year 5)
Tue 27th Class Information Evenings, 4pm and 5pm

October

Tue 4th Harvest Festival at St Nicholas Church
Wed 5th Owl and Falconry Visit (KS1)
Fri 7th Longfellow Trip - Baylab Science Visit
Wed 19th Open Morning for prospective EYFS parents
Thu 20th Flu Vaccination (nasal spray) - *All pupils*
Fri 21st **INSET DAY – School Closed**
24th-28th **HALF TERM – School Closed**

November

Wed 2nd TS Eliot/Longfellow Trip - The Living Rainforest
Thu 3rd Open Morning for prospective EYFS parents
Mon 7th Alter Ego Drama Performance KS2
Tue 8th Parents Evening, 3.30pm-6pm
Wed 9th Parents Evening, 3.30pm-6pm
Wed 9th Bag2School collection
Fri 11th Individual & Sibling Portrait Photos

December

Tue 6th St Nicholas Day Service, 10am Church
Wed 7th EYFS and KS1 Nativity
Thu 8th EYFS and KS1 Nativity
Fri 9th Christmas Jumper Day
Fri 9th Open Morning for prospective EYFS parents
Mon 19th Christmas Craft Day
Tue 20th Carol Service, 10am St Nicholas Church
Tue 20th Last Day of Term, 1:30pm
Year 6 – Lacrosse Training sessions 1.00pm – 2.00pm

Clubs currently on offer this Term

Monday	Morning Judo with Ollie Fricker 8.00am Guitar Tuition with Tony Lyons 1.00pm Adult Yoga – 7.00pm – 8.00pm
Tuesday	Berkshire Maestros 1.00pm www.berkshiremaestros.org.uk Netball club – Book through Get Active
Friday	Lunchtime Recorder Club 12.00pm

Every Day 3.30pm – 4.30pm / 6.00pm – Get Active! To book places visit

<https://getactivesportsuk.coordinate.cloud/project/30962>

Our School Values: Respect, Thoughtfulness, Perseverance, Friendship

Dear Parents and Carers,

It is with great sadness that we learned of the passing of Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II. This morning, the school gathered in Collective Worship to reflect on her 70 years on the throne and her incredible dedication to our country. The Queen spoke on many occasions about her relationship with God and her Faith. The bible formed the foundations of her life. Liz Truss spoke of how the Queen represented the rock on which modern Britain was built and how she had provided us with the stability and strength that we needed in our changing world. As a school this analogy is significant as we recognise the importance of those firm foundations for all successes.

While we mourn that she has passed, we also celebrate her life and feel comforted in that she is together again with the late Prince Philip.

Today we joined in prayer to give thanks for her long life, gratitude for what we remember and cherish and for guidance over the changes we face. We thank God for peace and love. As we process and reflect, we may find we are reminded of those close to whom we have lost. It important that we give time to remember what we loved about them, why they were special to us, and acknowledge the sadness of losing them.

The children have been writing some words of condolence in class today which will be shared in a book of remembrance in school. We invite you to also contribute to this and if you would like to send in messages, these will be added. The book of condolence will be kept in the main entrance hall.

God bless our Queen,

Sarah Hilling, Head of School

School Lunch Process

Parents no longer be required to pre-order school lunches for their child/ren. All children will place their lunch order daily with their class teacher at morning Registration and as such, the school dinner calendar functionality in Tucasi SCOPAY has been disabled. Please ensure you explain this new process with your child/ren as we have seen instances of children not ordering a lunch at morning registration as they think a lunch has already been placed by the parent. Please can we request that parents of Junior children check their lunch payment accounts regularly to ensure there are enough funds to cover school lunches. The cost of a meal for a pupil in Years 3-6 will remain at £2.15 (unless eligible for FSM).

PE Days

Please see below the allocated PE days for each class. Please ensure your child comes to school wearing appropriate PE uniform on these days. Sports kit or brightly coloured/patterned bottoms are not considered uniform. Earrings must be removed or covered:

MILNE	DONALDSON	TS ELIOT	LONGFELLOW	BLAKE
Tuesday Thursday	Tuesday Thursday	Monday Wednesday	Monday Wednesday	Monday Friday

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Can you help?

Are you able to spare half an hour on a Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday morning (9am until 9.30am) to run a small reading group with our Key Stage 1 children (alongside Teachers and Teaching Assistants)

Training will be given and all support materials provided.

Please email the office if you're able to help!



Gardening Club

Have you noticed how sad our pots are looking, how our bug hotel is looking rather abandoned and planters empty? We have some keen and eager children who would like to join an environmental team to help improve our gardens, grow flowers, plants and vegetables and ensure that we are welcoming wildlife into our school.

Could you spare 45 minutes a week to help a small group of children achieve this? Perhaps early morning club, after school or lunchtimes? If this is something you might enjoy, please get in touch!

Oktoberfest Hurst Beer & Music festival - 15.10.22

This event is kindly sponsored by [VP Estate Agents Twyford](#) and [The Money Guardian](#)

Live music from 'The Originals' & 'The Riots'

Live DJ by Thames Valley Discos

Local beers & Ales, prosecco, gin and Jagermeister bar!

Ticket price - £19.50 (plus £0.50 booking fee) - Hog Roast & trimmings included in ticket price

Hurst Village Hall - Doors open 6.00pm

Food by www.vintagehogroast.co.uk



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School Clubs – How do I sign up?

GET ACTIVE AFTER SCHOOL CLUB

We've had great feedback so far on Get Active's new after school provision, including a hassle free all new booking system!

This week the children have enjoyed dodgeball, battleships, lego, colouring, reading, board games, and construction activities.

THEMED FRIDAYS! something different is planned each Friday such as movie time, milkshake making and cupcake icing!

NETBALL CLUB

Mrs Rudd will be running netball club starting Tues 13th September during Get Active after school club.

To book places please visit <https://getactivesportsuk.coordinate.cloud/project/30962>

Morning Judo with Ollie Fricker

We are excited to welcome back Ollie for Monday morning judo classes.

We have a few spaces left, please sign up here:

<https://judo-school.class4kids.co.uk/term/33>



Learn to play Guitar!

GUITAR LESSONS We are now offering guitar tuition to Years 4, 5 & 6. Lessons are half an hour long & will take place on Monday afternoons starting on September 19th. For more information and if you would like your child to take guitar lessons simply email Tony Lyons at: tonytonylions@gmail.com



Please provide - Your child's name - 'St Nicholas' and school year your child is in.

If you have any questions please contact Tony Lyons on the email above or Tel: 07946 344202

Web: www.guitarschool.org.uk

KS2 Lunchtime Recorder Club

Starting in the autumn term, we are delighted to offer the opportunity for KS2 children to attend a lunchtime recorder club. The club will run on Friday lunchtimes. Please see letter attached to this newsletter, sign up and return to your class teacher.



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YOGA session at St Nicholas CE Primary School

Great news! Every Monday 7-8pm - Yoga sessions in the School Hall.

Classes are for everyone of all abilities,
run by an experienced yoga teacher.

Please call Katy Meads on 07761591605 to book.

Sessions are £10 per class



GET ACTIVE AFTER SCHOOL CLUB

To book places please visit

<https://getactivesportsuk.coordinate.cloud/project/30962>

ST NICHOLAS CE PRIMARY AFTER SCHOOL CLUB



6th Sep - 20th July

You don't have to require childcare to send your child for an abundance of fun at Get Active Clubs! Come and join us to learn new skills, make friends and take part in a wide range of activities this term!

WHAT TO EXPECT:

- Arts & crafts
- Football
- Dodgeball
- Athletics
- Ping Pong
- Team Games
- Tag Rugby
- Talent Shows
- Mad science
- Cookie decoration
- Disco party
- Board games
- Mini Olympics
- Music
- Free Play

FUN FRIDAYS

JOIN US ON FRIDAY FOR OUR SPECIAL EVENTS! THESE CAN INCLUDE MILKSHAKE MAKING, CUPCAKE ICING, AND MUCH MORE! MAKE SURE YOU SIGN UP TO HEAR ABOUT OUR WEEKLY EVENTS!

PRICES AND TIMES

After school club Short session - 3:15pm - 4:30pm £6.00 per person
After school Club Medium session - £4:30pm - 6pm £8.00 per person
After School Club Long session - £3:15pm - 6pm £12.00 Per person

HOW TO BOOK:

Simply head over to our website www.getactivesports.com and select your child's school. Find this under parents tab. Select the activity you require and then click "Book now". If you would like to book over the phone, call our lovely team on 01344 860868

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PTA UPDATE

Dear Parents/Carers

Welcome back, we hope you've all had a great summer.

Over the coming few weeks we will be outlining what projects in school need funding and events we plan to run to raise the money required. These projects are things that won't be able to go ahead unless we raise the funds to make them happen and enrich the school lives of all our children.

We know that fundraising in the current economic climate is going to be really difficult, but we need to do what we can to ensure our children's school lives are as normal as possible. There are many ways you can support our fundraising, whether it's taking the time to help out, making regular donations or taking part in events.

Events - We are in the process of agreeing a series of events for the children to enjoy and also to raise much needed funds for our school. If you've got any ideas and suggestions, please put them forward to the school.

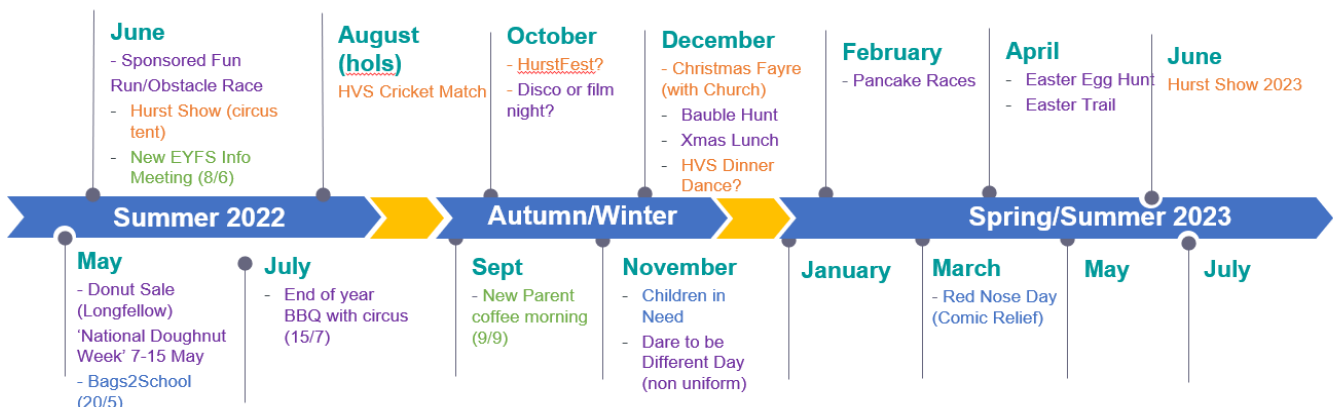
Volunteers - Once the list is complete we will be asking for volunteers to run the events. Don't worry, you'll have support, but without people coming forward to run the events we will have to make the decision to cancel the events. Obviously we don't want to do this but we do need support from the wider parent and school staff community.

Committee Team – In order to continue running as a charity for the school, we need to have more members on the committee and also to formally be recognised as Trustees. A number of our Trustees no longer have children at the school and would like to pass the mantle over to current parents. This involves taking part in one or two meetings per term. Our job is to raise funds for the school (obviously with help from the wider community) and that as a parent community we agree with where the funds are spent within the school through discussions with Mrs Hilling. It's a great opportunity to understand and be involved in the school community, and a great way to meet new people. Please get in touch via the school office if you would be interested.

Kind regards

St Nicholas PTA Activities Timeline

Community Events
Kids Events
Parent Community outreach
Charity Fundraising



Parent Suggestions (via Whatsapp)

- Pyjama non-uniform day
- Xmas Lights Trail in Hurst
- Obstacle Course
- Film Night
- Children's sponsored Car Wash
- Xmas card design – www.igcards.co.uk
- Ice cream sale (next week when weather is warm)
- Car wash – kids wash for sponsorship

Speaking to children about the death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II

Queen Elizabeth II has died aged 96 after 70 years of Service. The Queen spoke on many occasions about her relationship with God and her faith. We can be sad and mourn that she has died but also celebrate her life and know that she will be free from pain and suffering in heaven.

Here are some suggestions for how we can share this historic moment with children.



Unpacking Emotions

We can feel many different emotions when somebody dies. There is no right or wrong way to feel. Invite children to share how they are feeling, do not be afraid to share your own feelings as well. Sometimes it is easier to describe how an emotion makes our body feel than find the right word for it. A child may not show the same emotional response as an adult, and it is alright if your child does not respond in the way you expect, there may also be a delayed response as children pick up on and mirror the emotions shared by adults around them.

You might want to explain that the country and world will spend time mourning together, this is because many people will feel sad and want to show respect for who the Queen was. We can be empathetic, thinking about how the family and close friends of the Queen must be feeling at this sad time.

How we can pray...

Pray for the royal family as they experience many different emotions during this difficult time.

Pray for parents within the royal family who are having their own conversations with children.

Remembering Service

We can remember the many wonderful ways in which the Queen served our nation and countries around the world. The Queen was also the Supreme Governor of the Church of England, Chief of the Armed Forces and Head of State.

How we can pray...

We can pray and thank God for the many ways that Elizabeth served our country and the world.

We can pray for the new King as he takes on these roles.

You might like to write a thank you letter together to the Queen for all her service.

Celebrating Salvation

We can thank God for the relationship that the Queen had with Him. We can also remember God's promise that those who know Him will be with Him in heaven, a place with no pain, sadness or suffering.

You might like to listen to some worship songs which speak about heaven and God's promises as you reflect on this future hope.

How we can pray...

We can thank God that Queen Elizabeth is no longer in any pain, echoing the words of Justin Welby who prayed "May Her Late Majesty rest in peace and rise in glory."

We can pray for the new King that he would be comforted by his own relationship with God.

Why does God let people die?

God's plan for this world was one with no pain, suffering or death where humans lived in perfect relationship with God. The world we live in isn't like that, it is fallen, sin has come into our lives and separated us from that perfect relationship with God. The world we live in has pain and suffering, sadness and death.

So God made a new plan, it was a plan that involved His own son dying so that one day we could all live with Him in heaven, in new bodies that never got sick, live lives full of joy and happiness every day.

Even though it is hard to be separated from people, we know that one day we can all be together again. Death is not the end but the next part of a journey with God. For those who know and love God there is the chance to live in Heaven with God forever.

You may wish to watch this short video, celebrating her life from First News <https://tinyurl.com/yms47bf6>

Church Children & Families Worker

Building Christian faith, meaning and positive relationships with the youngest residents of Twyford, Ruscombe and Hurst.

Working in the heart of the community, our next children and families worker will encourage and nurture the faith of our youngest church members, and the children of our local schools, by coordinating and leading services, groups and special events.

Energetic, organised and creative, you'll have a gift for growing positive relationships with people young and old alike. Leading outreach in our local primary schools, toddler group and at village events you'll need to be organised, friendly and full of new ideas to grow the links between our church family and wider community. You will play a crucial role building on the work our previous Children & Families worker has started in delivering our fresh vision of being Four Churches: One family, following in the footsteps of Christ.

What we offer

A salary of £11.5-14k pa for a 20-hour week

Contributory pension scheme

6 weeks' annual leave (including Bank Holidays where appropriate)

A line manager

Time & budget for your professional and spiritual development including annual attendance at an appropriate conference (e.g. New Wine Kids leaders)

A thriving network of pre-existing groups: TOTS on Tuesdays, St Nicholas Messy Church and All-age Service, St Mary's Sunday 'Trailblazers'

Colleagues, a desk and a laptop!

Closing date for applications: 20th September 2022

Interviews: week commencing 26th September 2022

If you are interested in this exciting opportunity and would like to receive a copy of the job description, please send your CV to office@thru-christ.org.uk