



St Nicholas School Bulletin

Christmas Edition

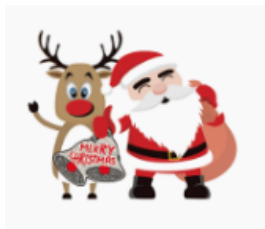


December 20th 2022

Upcoming Dates

January 2023

Wed 4th INSET Day
Thu 5th Children back to school
Mon 9th Year 1 and 2 Trip to Windsor
Wed 11th PTA Meeting



Dear Parents and Carers,

As we come towards the end of the first term of the year I wanted to write to you all to express my thanks for your support over the past few months. The children in have made a fantastic start to this academic year at St Nicholas CE Primary School. This would not be possible without the support and guidance from you and also the supportive and caring nature of our staff here at St Nicholas. I would like to personally thank all our families for their continued support and partnership with School.

Please enjoy some photographs from the events over the past week which have been taken by staff.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a wonderful Christmas and a Happy New Year. I hope that everyone is able to have a quiet, peaceful and relaxing break with family, friends and loved ones.

*With best wishes,
Mrs Sarah Hilling, Head of School*

Christmas Exhibition

Our friends from the Hurst Gospel Hall came to school to talk with the children about the Christmas Nativity Story.



Christmas Lunch

Thank you to the PTA for all the help with the Christmas lunch. Another huge successful feast!



We even had some matching jumpers!



Santa's Grotto

The great man himself was able to spare some time to visit the school and delighted the children by giving them each a present. The shelter was magically transformed into a delightful little grotto. Thank you to the PTA for organising such a special event.





The Panto came to School!

“Panto In A Day” came to school to perform Aladdin. The children really enjoyed the show, getting involved and joining in. Feedback was that we were one of their best audiences!!



Christmas Craft Day

Our annual event continued with usual success. The children enjoying creating, making and designing their cards, decorations and biscuits to take home.





Message from the PTA

The next PTA meeting is on 11th January 2023 where there will be discussions and booking in the spring term events. All are welcome, bring ideas or send them in advance to PTAChair@st-nicholas.wokingham.sch.uk

Bespoke Enrichment Opportunities

Day	What's On?	For more info/ booking
Monday	8.00am Morning Judo with Ollie Fricker 1.00pm Guitar Tuition with Tony Lyons 7.00pm Adult Yoga with Katy Meads	https://judo-school.class4kids.co.uk/term/33 tonytonylyons@gmail.com Call 07761591605
Tuesday	1.00pm Berkshire Maestros Music Tuition	www.berkshiremaestros.org.uk
Wednesday	8.00am Morning Fencing Club with The Little Musketeers (dates for next term will be 11th January to 22nd March 2023) Lunchtime Books and Board games club	https://musketeerseducation.com/ Mrs Hilling & Mrs Hattrick
Football Free Thursday	Lunchtime Dance Starz for all!	No sign up! Just step up!
Friday	12.00pm Recorder Club 1.00pm – Group Piano tuition	admin@st-nicholas.wokingham.sch.uk admin@wekey.co.uk
Everyday	Get Active After School Club	https://getactivesportsuk.coordinate.cloud/project/30962

Our very popular **Books and Board Games Club** would be grateful if anyone is able to donate any board games or colouring books. Please could you ensure that all the pieces are with the games and that they take less than half an hour to play. Please bring to the School Office. Thank you 😊

Local events over the festive period

Saturday 24th December [Crib Service](#)

4:00pm [St.Nicholas Church](#)

Saturday 24th December

[Midnight Communion Service](#)

11:30pm [St.Nicholas Church](#)

Conducted by Reverend Graham

Sunday 25th December

[Christmas Morning Service](#)

10:30am - 11:15am [Hurst Gospel Hall](#)

Followed by refreshments.

Sunday 25th December

[Christmas Day Communion](#)

11:00am [St.Nicholas Church](#)

Conducted by Reverend David West

Following the tragic events recently in Solihull, please find below details provided by the Royal Berkshire Fire and Rescue to help keep young people and their families as safe as possible during the winter period.

ROYAL BERKSHIRE FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE



Scan for more

Ice Safety

Be careful around water in winter. Frozen water is dangerous and can have fatal consequences.

Our Advice:

- Never venture onto frozen water. Even if it appears thick from the bank, it can easily break and you do not know how deep the water is below or how thin the ice is.
- Do not be tempted to test the thickness of the ice. It is easy to slip from the bank and fall through into the freezing water.
- Time your walks to make the most of the daylight; if you need to walk in the evening only use well-lit areas or take a route that avoids water.
- Do not wander near the edge, icy or wet conditions could cause you to slip.

What to do if you fall through the ice:

- Keep calm and shout for help.
- Spread your arms across the surface of the ice in front of you.
- If the ice is strong enough, kick your legs to slide onto the ice.
- Lie flat and pull yourself towards the bank.
- If the ice breaks, work your way to the bank-breaking the ice in front of you.
- If you cannot climb out, wait for help and keep as still as possible. Press your arms by your side and keep your legs together. Keep your head clear of the water.
- Once you are safe, go to the hospital.

If you see someone fall through ice:

- Shout for assistance and phone 999.
- Do not walk or climb onto the ice to attempt a rescue.
- Shout to the casualty to 'keep still' and offer reassurance to keep them calm.
- Try to reach them from the bank using a rope, pole, tree branch, or anything else which can extend your reach, such as clothing tied together.
- When reaching from the bank, lie down to avoid being pulled onto the ice.
- If you cannot reach them, slide something which floats across the ice for them to hold onto whilst help is on the way.
- If the casualty is too far away, do not attempt to rescue them. Wait for the emergency services and continue to reassure the casualty.
- Make sure an ambulance has been called.
- Lay the casualty flat, check for normal breathing.
- Prevent them from getting colder by covering them with warm clothing and blankets.
- Create some shelter and get them out of the cold if possible.
- Do not rub their skin and do not apply hot water bottles.

Community News

STORYTIME WITH
Fiona Barker
Thursday 22nd December
2:30pm
Woodley Library
Booking is essential



Wokingham Borough Libraries



At Wokingham Library on the first and fourth Saturday of each month Code Club is run for 9-13-year-olds. Code Club aims to introduce coding to young people, helping them progress through projects, to create games, animations, and web pages using Scratch, Python.

Limited spaces are available.

If you would like to apply please get in touch with us at volunteer@wokingham.gov.uk

WINTER CAMPS
WOKINGHAM
19th December - 23rd December 2022 & 3rd January 2023.

HOW TO BOOK	VENUES, TIMES & PRICES	WHAT WE'RE UP TO...
Visit www.getactivesports.com and register yourself and your child, if you're new to GetActive. Sign in with the usual logins if you have used us before. Select your nearest venue and view live availability. Select the days and session times required.	8am - 3:30pm £25.45 OR 8am-6pm £31.45 • Shinfield St Marys, RG2 9EJ • Radstock Primary, RG6 3JZ • Willowbank Infants, RG5 4RW • Robert Piggott Infants, RG10 8ED • Hillside Primary, RG6 4HQ	Football Tennis Team Games Hockey Basketball Rounders Gaming Mad Science Jewellery making Arts & Crafts Lava Lamps Dress Up

SIBLING, EARLY BIRD AND MILITARY/NHS SAVINGS AVAILABLE

Speak to our office team:
01344 860 868 | info@getactivesports.com
www.getactivesports.com

USE OUR EARLY BIRD CODE "DEC22" FOR 10% OFF
EXP 9/12/2022

Dinton
Activity Centre

CRAFTING AT THE CAFE

Coffee Deck, Cafe
19th-23rd Dec
1pm-4pm

All Ages | £4
Adult supervision required.

Choose either
Rudolph & a tree
or a snowman!




0118 934 4424
www.wokinghamcountryside.co.uk/activities/crafting-at-the-cafe/

Dinton
Activity Centre

WINTER WILD DAYS

19th-23rd of December
AGE 8-14

	9:30-12:30	13:30-16:30
Monday	Archery & Disc golf	Indoor climbing & Crafts
Tuesday	Bushcraft & Treasure hunting	Team challenge & Catapult
Wednesday	Low ropes & Orienteering	Catapult & Indoor climbing
Thursday	Archery & Disc golf	Indoor climbing & Crafts
Friday	Bushcraft & Treasure hunting	Team challenge & Catapult

0118 934 4424
www.wokinghamcountryside.co.uk/activities/holiday-clubs-junior-8/winter-welly-days/





the
national
sleep
helpline

Does your child suffer with sleep issues?

Do you struggle with your child's bedtime?

Will your child not sleep in their own bed?

WE CAN HELP

03303 530 541
Sunday - Tuesday & Thursday 7pm - 9pm
Wednesday 9am - 11am

the
national
sleep
helpline

50%

Around 50% of children will have a sleep issue at some point*

WHAT IS THE NATIONAL SLEEP HELPLINE?
In partnership with Furniture Village, The Sleep Charity has launched a brand new National Sleep Helpline to ensure that everyone has access to high quality, evidence-based advice.

HOW CAN THE NATIONAL SLEEP HELPLINE HELP YOU?

- Run by a team of specialist trained sleep advisors
- Offer you some practical strategies and recommend services that could help
- Ensuring you understand how sleep plays an important part in your child's mental health and wellbeing
- Listen without judgement and help you decide what next steps are right for you
- Empower you with sleep knowledge so you can understand why your child might not be sleeping well and how that can change

03303 530 541
Sunday - Tuesday & Thursday 7pm - 9pm
Wednesday 9am - 11am

POWERED BY
the sleep charity

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH
Furniture Village

Copyright © 2022 The Sleep Charity. All rights reserved. The Sleep Charity, a charitable incorporated organisation registered with the Charity Commission under registration number 1150585.
*Survey of 2,000 adults by OnePoll, Aug 2021

Are you concerned about the rise in the cost of living?

Twyford and Ruscombe Parish Councils are working together to support and offer guidance to our residents during the cost of living crisis in the UK.

We want to support as many of our residents as possible across the key areas outlined in this leaflet.

Please find contact details below of organisations that can provide advice and support.

WARM PLACES



We are working with Wokingham Borough Council and our local community to create a network of warm spaces. Spaces will be available for people to use and visit during the winter period and beyond.

Warm Spaces are inclusive and non-judgemental, heated and free to access.

The facilities at each Warm Space will vary but will offer opportunities to participate in activities and we hope, to learn new skills. We are working with the local community so that these spaces will provide hot drinks, internet access, charging points and most importantly a friendly warm environment to connect with others within our community.

Scan to go to our Community Hub



For more information visit:

www.twyfordparishcouncil.gov.uk

www.wokingham.gov.uk/cost-of-living/warm-spaces

Or call: 0118 974 6000

Financial Advice and Support



If you are worried about money, housing or employment, you can contact Citizens Advice.

They can give you free advice on debt, benefits, employment and housing issues. They will also make sure you are getting all the support you are entitled to.

For more information visit:

www.citizensadvicewokingham.org.uk

Or call: 0808 278 7958

Food Banks



You may be seeing the price of food in the supermarket going up.

Wokingham Foodbank know that crisis can strike anyone and they understand how difficult it can be to think about walking through a foodbank door.

Their volunteers aim to welcome everyone who visits their foodbank with compassion, kindness and a listening ear.

For more information visit:

www.wokingham.foodbank.org.uk

Or call: 07926 524605

Mental Health Support



There are many things that can affect your mental health, particularly if you are dealing with financial problems or are living alone. It's normal and there is help available.

You are not alone. Don't be afraid to reach out for help if you're worried about yourself or a loved one.

If you need immediate mental health support call the Samaritans on 116 123

Or visit www.samaritans.org

Support for those in retirement



Age UK Berkshire

Age UK Berkshire provide essential information and expert advice on a wide variety of topics of interest or concern to people aged 50 or older in Berkshire. Age UK Berkshire also assists the families, friends and carers of those aged 50 or older.

For more information visit:

www.ageuk.org.uk/berkshire

Or call: 0118 9594242

Age Concern Twyford

Age Concern Twyford is a registered charity whose aim is to assist elderly residents in the area to maintain their independence and quality of life. They serve the local villages of Twyford, Hurst, Wargrave, Sonning, Ruscombe and Charvil.

For more information visit:

www.ageconcerntwyford.org.uk

Or call: 0118 9344040

Local Grants for Educational Costs and Hardship



The Polehampton Charity provides relief for people in need, those experiencing hardship or distress and promotes the education of people under 25 who reside in the parishes of Twyford, Ruscombe and Charvil.

For more information visit:

www.thepolehamptoncharity.co.uk

Get help if you're struggling with money

Cost of living crisis

We've worked alongside local charities to show all the support you could use for saving money this Winter:

- Pension credits
- Winter Fuel Payments
- Warm spaces open this winter
- Discounts on household bills
- Finding a job
- Healthy food vouchers
- Low income NHS help
- What to do if you can't afford food
- Mental health support
- What to do if you're in debt



SCAN TO GET HELP WITH COST OF LIVING

Keep up to date with new support on offer



www.wokingham.gov.uk/cost-of-living

Can't get help online?

Call the Citizens Advice Wokingham One Front Door. Open to all residents in Wokingham borough



0808 278 7958

Open 9am to 5pm, Monday to Friday

citizensadvicewokingham.org.uk/onefrontdoor

Further details can be found at:

<https://www.twyfordparishcouncil.gov.uk/community/community-hub/> Additional information and advice

for the public on financial support and benefits can be

found on the [government website](#) and the

Wokingham Borough Council website page [Cost of](#)

[living help](#) This includes:

- A [Household Support Fund](#)
- An [online resource](#) is now available to help residents worried about paying bills find out about help available locally.
- Information on [Help and support with saving energy](#)
- Information on places to go to keep warm and get support through the winter at [Warm spaces](#).

If you have any questions/queries, please feel free to contact: Public.Health@wokingham.gov.uk