



St Nicholas School Bulletin



February 23rd 2023

Upcoming Dates

February 2023

Fri 24th Y6 Bikeability
Tue 28th EYFS National Child Measurement Programme

March 2023

Thur 2nd NEU Strike possible school closures
Fri 3rd WORLD BOOK DAY
Fri 3rd Year 6 Trip to Ashmolean Museum
Tue 7th Y6 Parent Evening
Wed 8th Parent Evening All classes
Thur 9th Parent Evening F2 – Y5
Fri 10th Y6 Bikeability
Tue 14th Information and Coffee morning for parents
Weds 15th NEU Strike possible school closures
Thu 16th NEU Strike possible school closures
Fri 17th Adult Quiz Night
Fri 24th TKAT Y3/4 Sports Event
Tue 28th PTA Bake Sale
Thur 30th Easter Exhibition for Children
Fri 31st 10am Church Easter Service
Fri 31st 1.30pm End of Spring Term

April 2023

Mon 3rd – Fri 14th EASTER HOLIDAY
Mon 17th Children back to school
Fri 21st Year 3 Swimming starts
Fri 28th Year 3 Swimming

May 2023

Mon 1st May Day BANK HOLIDAY
Tue 2nd Museum of English Rural Life trip – Longfellow and TSEliot
Fri 5th Year 3 Swimming
Mon 8th BANK HOLIDAY King Charles III coronation
Fri 12th Year 3 Swimming
Fri 19th Year 3 Swimming
Fri 19th Tempest Year Group Photos
Fri 26th Year 3 Swimming
Mon 29th to Wed 31st HALF TERM

June 2023

Thu 1st to Fri 2nd HALF TERM

Dear Parents and Carers,

It is incredible to think that we are now starting the second half of our academic year. It is really exciting to see how our curriculum and extra-curricular opportunities have grown and this has been reflected in fantastic progress the children have made.

I also want to bring your attention to the changes we have made in our approach to the teaching of reading. Reading has been a key area of focus across the school; ensuring that we lay the foundations for our children with a robust phonics offer in the early years before supporting their development as fluent readers who can access and progress through the curriculum. All children have reading lessons daily across the school and we aim to instill an enjoyment of reading which will stay with the children into adulthood.

We are currently raising funds so we can continue to build our reading library and the books on offer to ensure that all children have age appropriate books at the level they can access. We hope in the near future, to raise £2500 to bridge the gap between Little Wandle and Accelerated Reader.

On Tuesday 14th March, we will be holding a phonics and reading information morning for parents, carers, our school visitors and governors. We will have refreshments on offer to enable guests to have time to talk to staff and ask questions. More information will follow.

Sarah Hilling, Head of School



Courageous Advocacy from Dexter Rosier!

Big thank you and well done to Dexter and his family for organising the collection of donations to go to Turkey and Syria following the earthquake disaster. As you can see, a huge haul was collected and delivered to support the cause.

Thank you to everyone who kindly donated.



WORLD BOOK DAY FRIDAY 3RD MARCH



We are very much looking forward to our WORLD BOOK DAY celebrations next week.

This year the whole school book we are sharing is “*All Are Welcome*” by Alexandra Penfold and Suzanne Kaufman. A book which celebrates diversity and individuality.

We have some exciting activities planned for the children in school, which include:

DRESS UP: We invite the children to come to school dressed in such a way as represents their special interests, hobbies or cultural background. Last year we saw some amazing uniforms, outfits and costumes.

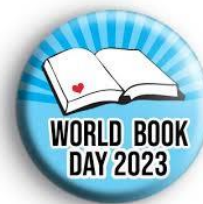
STORYTIME: Teachers will be moving around to read to the children extracts from their favourite books. There will be hot chocolate and biscuits on offer!

DONATIONS: We will be accepting monetary donations towards our School Reading Scheme on the gate. Please give what you can. If the children would like to donate a copy of their favourite book to be placed on the Squashed Orange Bookcase, please ask them to write a message in the inside cover with their name and why they think others will love the book. Children can take their books straight to the Squashed Orange Bookcase when they arrive in the morning.

COMPETITION: We are offering 2 competitions for the children. 1) Design a book cover – A4 design AND/OR 2) Egg Box Book Challenge – Get creative with an old eggbox to represent a book or character of your choice. See examples below.

PRIZES will be presented to the winning entries for both categories for both EYFS/KS1 and KS2.





Lunchtime Football Coaching - Reminder

For those children wishing to take part in the lunchtime football coaching, please could they come to school in their school shoes and bring a pair of trainers to change into at lunchtime. No football boots should be worn to these sessions. Thank you.

Bespoke Enrichment Opportunities

We are hoping to introduce a Breakfast Club for September 2023. Thank you to those who completed the Wrap-Around Care questionnaire. If you are still yet to complete this, you can do so here:

<https://forms.office.com/e/ZDYfUbwTLL>

Day	What's On?	For more info/ booking
Monday	8.00am Morning Judo with Ollie Fricker Lunchtime Football Coaching 12.00pm recorder club 1.00pm Guitar Tuition with Tony Lyons 7.00pm Adult Yoga with Katy Meads	https://judo-school.class4kids.co.uk/term/33 Core Coaching – Free – initially 25 spaces admin@st-nicholas.wokingham.sch.uk tonytonylyons@gmail.com Call 07761591605
Tuesday	1.00pm Berkshire Maestros Music Tuition Lunchtime Football Coaching 1.00pm – Group Piano tuition	www.berkshiremaestros.org.uk Core Coaching – Free – initially 25 spaces admin@wekey.co.uk
Wednesday	8.00am Morning Fencing Club Little Musketeers	https://musketeerseducation.com/

	Lunchtime Books and Board games club WASMA Choir Group	Mrs Hilling & Mrs Hattrick Mrs Clacy and Mrs Prince
Thursday	Lunchtime Dance Starz for all! *NEW* 3.15- 4.30pm Forest Fun After School Club	No sign up! Just step up! https://bookwhen.com/wildnessandwonder (please add names to waiting list as we may be able to offer a second session)
Friday	*NEW* Lunchtime Book Club	Mrs Hattrick KS2 only
Everyday	Get Active After School Club https://getactivesportsuk.coordinate.cloud/project/30962	

Thank you to those who have expressed an interest in the Summer Spanish After School Club for EYFS and KS1. If you have not responded, please email admin@st-nicholas.wokingham.sch.uk with child name.



New Club

Reception & KS1 Spanish sessions!



Spanish Adventurers

A fun-filled and highly interactive Spanish group, with familiar stories, original songs, creative activities for your little ones.

Join us at St Nicholas CE Primary school

For more information
contact the school office or
visit our website

<https://thebilingualapproach.weebly.com/spanish-adventurers.html>



NEWS FROM THE PTA

A message from the Treasurer

Hi Everyone,

We hope you all had a great half term holiday. In the coming months we're continuing to raise funds for the new Adventure Playground as the old one is coming to the end of its life. We all know how much the kids love playing on there.

School Disco – What a success! Everyone had a fantastic night, with requests coming in to repeat soon! Thank you to everyone that supported the event. We raised an excellent £550!

Bake Sale – Cake is always popular! Our recent bake sale raised £112.

Next Event – Quiz Night, 17th March 7:30pm, £45 per table of up to 8. If you'd rather join a Social Table, let us know and we'll link you up with others. Your first round of nibbles is included. **Nibbles and drinks from the Licenced Bar.**

Help Out – We'd love to see more of our community involved, please come and join an event, contact us via the office or email PTAChair@st-nicholas.wokingham.sch.uk. Great opportunity to make friends and have fun!

Raised to date: £8,062

(£6000 Hurst Show, £1000 donation, £500 Dinner Dance more to follow, £550 Disco, £112 Cake Sale)

A Message from Abby Joby

After a few months of planning, and having an understanding of what we wanted to offer at the disco, we've had a huge success, so thank you to all at St Nicholas. Special thanks go to:

- Mark, for the excellent tunes
- Angela, Kirsty, Tanya, for the hot dogs and ice-cream sales
- Claire and team for the Prosecco sales
- Chocoholics for the free tasty treats
- Emily, Louise, Sarah, Laura for inflatable sales sweet
- Ania for never ending tattoo sales
- Rachel who baked 100 biscuits and Amanda managing the decorating station
- Kate for fantastic face paints
- And finally Sam, Emma, Naomi and teacher's for set up, clear down and bouncer duties
- And for everyone else who helped in any other way!

I'm sure you would all agree, the children thoroughly enjoyed it with dance offs and I'm sure I saw a teacher breakdancing!


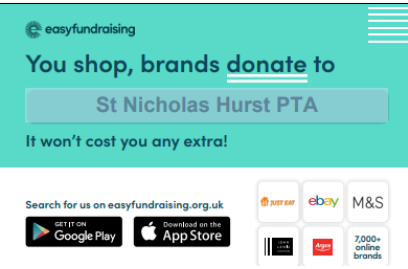

It was a wonderful event which I'm sure will have long lasting memories for our children at St Nicholas.

Thank you children, for all your 20ps and £1 coins. We have raised a tremendous 🌟£550 to go towards your school playground.

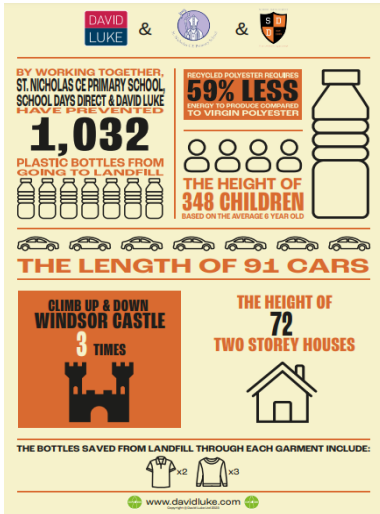
We look forward to see you all at our next event, the quiz night, on the 17th March.
Until then... keep dancing!



Help us raise money with all the following. More details can be found on our Facebook page or ask any of the Committee.

		
<p>Play the lottery each week, guaranteed winner from our supporters every week.</p> <p>Also national jackpot of £25,000!</p> <p>Support St Nicholas CE Primary School when you play Your School Lottery - Your School Lottery</p>	<p>Online shopping via an EasyFundraising account, triggers payments to the PTA at no cost to you.</p> <p>https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/panel</p>	<p>For companies that offer to Match Fund your donations, this is often through Benevity. Direct donations can be made to the project below via your employee portal.</p> <p>Adventure Playground - Replacement Equipment Benevity Causes</p>

Date	Event	Raised	What's Needed	Request for help	Main Contact
Thu 09 Feb 23	School Disco	£550			Abby Joby
Tue 21 Feb 23	Yr 2 Bake Sale	£112			Clare Waymark
Fri 17 Mar 23	Quiz Night - Adults		Book your table	Volunteers to run bar	Kirsty Dowding
Fri 31st TBC	Easter Bunny		140 chocolate eggs + GF and Dairy Free to be purchased	Volunteer to be the Easter Bunny	Clare Waymark
Tue 28 Mar 23	Bake Sale (Yr TBD)		£ to buy cakes		
Fri 12 May 23	Family Bettledrive (+BBQ?)				Shanae Eastland
May	Bake Sale (Yr TBD)		£ to buy cakes		
Sat 24 Jun 23	Hurst Show			We'll need helpers on our stall for the whole weekend, booking in 1 hour long slots	
Sun 25 Jun 23	Hurst Show				
July	Bake / Ice cream Sale (Yr TBD)		£ to buy cakes / ice creams		
October	Auction Night			Donations of prizes or promises; People willing to ask the community for donations	Shanae Eastland



'Eco' Uniform

This poster displays how many plastic bottles our school has helped save from going into landfill by our parents purchasing our 'Eco' uniform items over the past few years. Well done all 😊

Some quite amazing statistics!!

Community News



As a school we have just registered to take advantage of this excellent offer from Reading FC. Tickets are only £1 for children and are allocated to the family end of the ground. It's a really good opportunity for children to experience their first match, or come along and enjoy another game supporting their local team. Follow the details below to order tickets.

Discounted prices: 12 and Under: £1

17 and Under: £3

18 to 24: £5 £5 and over: £5

Adult: £10

To redeem, please visit <https://ticketing.readingfc.co.uk> and enter the following unique code #StNicholasCEPrimarySchool in the basket once you have logged in and selected your tickets.



Wokingham Highways Alliance have a couple of initiatives running currently, or are coming up in the near future.

Firstly, The Big Walk and Wheel will be running between the 20th and 31st March 2023. This event is designed to promote walking, cycling and scooting to school, and includes daily prize draws. You can find more information, or register to take part here: <https://bigwalkandwheel.org.uk/> Secondly, there is still time for pupils to enter the Active Travel Scavenger Hunt. You can find details here: <https://www.myjourneywokingham.com/events/active-travel-savenger-hunt/>.



**WOKINGHAM
BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**Director of Children's Services
Service of Excellence
Award
ASSIST
2019**

ASSIST are pleased to offer the following autism specific workshops

For information about any of the following workshops, or to book a place, please contact:

ASSISTWorkshops@wokingham.gov.uk

ASSIST Children's Services, Wokingham Borough Council

Woodley Airfield Centre, Hurricane Way, Woodley RG5 4UX

The workshops appear in date order up to July 2023 & will be repeated Sept to December 2023

Cost of each workshop, per adult:

Parents		Professionals	
Carers	£10.00	Practitioners	£40.00
Autistic individuals		Others	

These workshops are suitable for adult learning

Daytime workshops are offered face to face at the Woodley Airfield Centre RG5 4UX

Evening workshops are usually online

Free parking and refreshments available

Autism aware – it is important that you have a basic understanding and knowledge of autism either through your own experience or because you have attended an autism awareness workshop.

'What is autism' is covered in depth on the autism awareness workshop only.



Champions for an autism perspective

Autism Awareness (at Woodley Airfield Centre)

Tuesday 7th March 2023

9.30am start, workshop concludes at 12 noon (Registration opens 9.15am)

Build your understanding of autism – the 'hidden' disability including language, social interaction, sensory issues, anxieties and discuss some strategies and tools that might help and support autistic individuals to make sense of the world around them.

Supporting autistic individuals to understand and self-manage emotions & feelings (including anger) (at Woodley Airfield Centre)

Thursday 16th March 2023

9.30am start, workshop concludes at 12 noon (Registration opens 9.15am)

Build a deeper understanding of autism and consider how autistic people can be supported to promote positive behaviours, their understanding of their own and others' emotions (feelings) including anger, and so support them to develop their own self-management strategies.

Understanding and writing social/visual scripts to an advanced stage (at Woodley Airfield Centre)

Thursday 4th May 2023

9.30am start, workshop concludes at 12 noon (Registration opens 9.15am)

An intervention using social/visual scripts which can help support development and improved understanding of social events and expectations in a given situation. This may then lead to more effective social responses. You will have the opportunity to write social/visual scripts to describe a social situation, skill or concept and then go on to build and practice these skills.

'Really got me thinking'

'Your workshops help me to really understand the possible perceptions of an autistic person'

'I've learnt more in 2.5 hrs than in the last 6 months'

A positive, systematic approach to finding solutions (at Woodley Airfield Centre)

Tuesday 9th May 2023

9.30am start, workshop concludes at 12 noon

(Registration opens 9.15am)

An opportunity to develop new skills in finding solutions, responding in a positive and creative manner towards difficulties and gaining confidence in a team approach to addressing challenges in your setting.

'This was so interesting and insightful – the best training I have ever had on autism, I am now really motivated and inspired.'

Working in small groups to discuss issues that are preventing autistic individuals from moving on and then using a process to identify positive solutions. Candidates could bring a difficulty or challenge from their own setting and use the workshop to generate some ideas to take back and try!

2

EVENING ONLINE WORKSHOP!

Supporting autistic individuals to understand and self-manage emotions & feelings (including anger)

Tuesday 16th May 2023

7pm start, workshop concludes at 9pm (MS Teams presentation)

Build a deeper understanding of autism and consider how autistic people can be supported to promote positive behaviours, their understanding of their own and others' emotions (feelings) including anger, and so support them to develop their own self-management strategies.

Drawing whilst talking! (at Woodley Airfield Centre)

Thursday 18th May 2023

9.30am start, workshop concludes at 12 noon (Registration opens 9.15am)

How to use drawing as an intervention whilst having a conversation. Enabling the exploration and enhancement of conversational skills, social understanding and perspective of others – seeing something from a different point of view!

'This has been the BEST training I have attended, and definitely the best autism training, I really enjoyed the session!'

Autism specific workshop on sexual development and puberty (at Woodley Airfield Centre)

Tuesday 13th June 2023

9.30am start, workshop concludes at 12 noon (Registration opens 9.15am)

An opportunity to discuss and develop your understanding of the physical and emotional changes at puberty, then how to prepare and support autistic individuals to manage these changes. Exploration of the concept 'public, private and personal safety'.

Participants must understand that there will be discussion and visual materials that are of an explicit nature relevant to the subject

Supporting Siblings (at Woodley Airfield Centre)

Thursday 22nd June 2023

9.30 start, workshop concludes at 12 noon (Registration opens 9.15am)

(Registration opens 9.30am)

An opportunity to explore the impact on siblings of having an autistic brother or sister. We discuss the difficulties that this can bring as well as the benefits. Included within the workshop are lots of practical strategies and ideas that may be helpful in supporting siblings to understand autism, cope with their experiences and feel valued for who they are.

Wokingham Borough Council are running Autism specific workshops. Please get in touch with them if you are interested in attending.

Joyce's Craft



Memory animals made from special clothing,
provided by customer.

Prices range from £10-£20.

For more information visit
Joyce's Craft Facebook page.



Email: joycemckcraft@gmail.com

Tel: 07984 604667