

St Nicholas School Bulletin



The organic baby food co.

Laying Firm Foundations to Believe and Achieve

2nd April 2023

Upcoming Dates

April 2023

Mon 17th Children back to school Fri 21st Year 3 Swimming Thu 27th Art Exhibition Evening 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

Fri 5th PTA Coronation Afternoon Tea

Mon 8th BANK HOLIDAY King Charles III coronation Fri 12th Year 3 Swimming Fri 19th Year 3 Swimming Fri 19th Tempest Year 6 Photos Fri 26th Year 3 Swimming Mon 29th to Wed 31st HALF TERM

June 2023

Thu 1st to Fri 2nd HALF TERM
Fri 9th Optional non-uniform day – PTA bring a
bottle donation for Hurst Show
Wed 14th New Parent Information Evening
Fri 16th PTA Sponsored Fun Run
Sat 24th Hurst Show
Sun 25th Hurst Show
Wed 28th Transition Day

July 2023

Tue 4th District Sports Event
Wed 5th -7th Year 4 at Sayers Croft
Tue 11th Sports Day
Thu 13th School Reports to Parents
Tue 18th Whole School Trip
Fri 21st Leavers service at church
Fri 21st END OF TERM – finish at 1.30pm





Happy Easter!

Dear parents and carers,

As we come to the end of the term, I wanted to take a moment to wish you all a happy Easter. It is a time to reflect on the year so far and look forward to the future with renewed hope and joy.

At St Nicholas, we have been working hard to provide your children with the best possible education and enrichment opportunities on offer, and we are proud of all the progress they have made. We hope that you are as proud of them as we are.

As we move into the Easter break, I encourage you to take some time to spend with your family and loved ones. Use this time to relax, recharge, and enjoy the simple pleasures of life. Whether it's hunting for Easter eggs, enjoying a family meal, or simply spending time together, make the most of this special time.

Thank you for your continued support throughout the term. We are so grateful to have such dedicated and engaged parents in our school community. We look forward to continuing to work together to provide your children with the best possible education.

Wishing you all a happy and peaceful Easter.

Best regards,

Mrs Hilling, Head of School



Thank you to our friends from the Gospel Hall hosted their Easter Exhibition for the children again this year.

The children enjoyed learning more about the Easter Story in such an interactive way.









Easter Bunny and Service

Thank you to the PTA for the generous donations of eggs for the children who were presented these by the Easter Bunny. This followed another hugely successful Easter Service at St Nicholas Church. This year we were joined by the children and families of St Cecilia's, one of our family schools within the Keys Academy Trust. We were also joined by the friends of the Link Visiting Scheme, Rvd Richard Lamey, Rvd Graham Theobald and Phillippa Middleton our new Family and Children's worker for St Nicholas Church who you may see at Messy Church! Thank you to all those who joined us on our walk to church and to the weather for holding long enough for us to get there and back without getting too wet!!













Sports Update

On Thursday 30th March we played our semi-final match against Willowbank Primary School. Unfortunately, we lost 4-0 but I would like to let everyone know how proud I am of them all and the hard work and the effort they have put in over this season. The conditions weren't great, with long grass and a heavy pitch, but they did not stop trying until the final whistle. It has been a real joy for me to watch them all develop into a good team, supporting each other so well. A massive thank you to all the parents who have supported them and myself over this season, it is really appreciated, and a huge thank you to Mrs Mitchell who has also been heavily involved.

Have a great Easter Holiday and bring on next season.

Mrs Rudd

WASMA Choir







Well done and congratulations to our choir who sang at the WASMA concert at the Hexagon on Sunday 19th March 2023. WASMA is a collaboration of school choirs across Wokingham Borough involving approximately 800 children. It has been running since after the Second World War - in fact many parents remember being a part of it as children - but this was St Nicholas' first entry for many years. The theme, 'Happy and Glorious', celebrated the music from across our late Queen's life. The choir needed to learn 16 songs - of which some were medleys of 4 or 5 other songs- from across the decades and they did extremely well to remember them all! Choir will continue to run on Wednesday lunchtimes and is open to all KS2 children. Huge appreciation to both Mrs Clacy and Mrs Prince for giving up their lunchtimes to help the children prepare and also for giving up their Sunday to ensure that our children could participate on the day. Well done to all involved, we were extremely proud of all of you.

Red Nose Day

Thank you to everyone for all their enthusiasm and wacky hair creations for Red Nose Day. We were delighted to have been able to raise £118.50 from your donations which has been sent off for this great cause.

House Captains

Elections have taken place for new Year 6 house captains. Congratulations go to:-

Willow - Bryony and Archie

Oak – Aster and Adam

Sycamore - Arabella and Samaira

Chestnut - Dexter and Jayden

French Exchange



TS Eliot and Longfellow classes were excited to have French exchange students spend time in their classes. Louanne and Aurore shared some French games and books as well as teaching them some funny French songs. It was lovely for the children to hear an authentic French accent and to have help with their pronunciation.



Next term, we begin our new language for St Nicholas, Spanish. Some of our EYFS and KS1 children will be enjoying Spanish Adventures after school and our KS2 children will have weekly lessons learning Spanish with the support from Language Angels.

Art Day

A fun day was had by all on Art Day in school. Below are a selection of photos showing some of the different activities.

Longfellow class learnt how to draw an oak leaf and looked at mandalas, linking the two and creating a piece of mandala oak leaf art.











Year 2 thoroughly enjoyed their Art Day, exploring texture, colour and patterns in nature. They learnt many new artistic techniques, including designing a Mood Board, marbling and water colour painting. We look forward to sharing the children's work at the Art Exhibition after Easter! Items of which will be up for sale!









Bespoke Enrichment Opportunities

Day	What's On?	For more info/ booking	
Monday	8.00am Morning Judo with Ollie Fricker	https://judo-school.class4kids.co.uk/term/33	
	Lunchtime Football Coaching	Core Coaching – Free	
	12.00pm recorder club	admin@st-nicholas.wokingham.sch.uk	
	1.00pm Guitar Tuition with Tony Lyons	tonytonylyons@gmail.com	
	7.00pm Adult Yoga with Katy Meads	Call 07761591605	
	Drum Club Lessons	tonytonylyons@gmail.com	
Tuesday	1.00pm Berkshire Maestros Music Tuition	www.berkshiremaestros.org.uk	
	Lunchtime Football Coaching	Core Coaching – Free	
	1.00pm – Group Piano tuition	admin@wekey.co.uk	
Wednesday	8.00am Morning Fencing Club Little Musketeers	https://musketeerseducation.com/	
	Lunchtime Books and Board games club	Mrs Hilling & Mrs Hattrick	
	Lunchtime Choir	Mrs Clacy and Mrs Prince	
Thursday	Lunchtime Dance Starz for all!	No sign up! Just step up!	
	3.15- 4.30pm Forest Fun After School Club	https://bookwhen.com/wildnessandwonder	
Friday	8.00am *AFTER EASTER* Morning Yoga	Mrs Goff – <u>claire@littleyogatree.co.uk</u>	
	Lunchtime Book Club	Mrs Hattrick KS2 only	
	AFTER EASTER Spanish Adventures	Mrs Ramos –	
	After School Club – EYFS / KS1 only	thebilingualapproach@gmail.com	
Everyday		etactivesportsuk.coordinate.cloud/project/30962	









Respect Honesty

Courage

Kindness

NEWS FROM THE PTA

Hi Everyone!

£23 for '23!

The £23 for 23 Challenge! Some families have started raising money for the £23 in 23 already. We would love to know what you are doing to raise money. Send photos of the children in action to the school office so they can be added to a photo gallery in school. All the money raised goes will go towards their Adventure Playground equipment, which we know they all love and will be upset when the current equipment needs to be removed, later this year.

Remember they can choose to do whatever they want to raise £23 by the May half term – about 8 weeks. If every child does this, we will raise just over £3,000! The children will be sent home with a challenge form this week, so get logging all your family achievements. Get creative! How will you reach 23? We look forward to seeing the photos and videos coming into school. We will share them all at the end of the challenge! You can make a donation by bank transfer to: Sort Code 30-91-11 Account Number: 01428355 or on our go fund me page.

If you're a tax payer you can also increase any donations by gift aiding – simply fill out this <u>form</u> and send to <u>PTATreasurer@st-nicholas.wokingham.sch.uk</u>

QUIZ – It was a sell out and everyone had a great time. We raised £530. A fantastic contribution to the adventure playgound. Thanks go to Kirsty, Clare, Shanae, Spence, Katie, Alan, Clair and Angela who all helped with the event organisation, A special thanks goes to Mrs Hilling who stepped in as Quiz Master at short notice. I think everyone who attended would agree, she was brilliant.

NEXT EVENTS

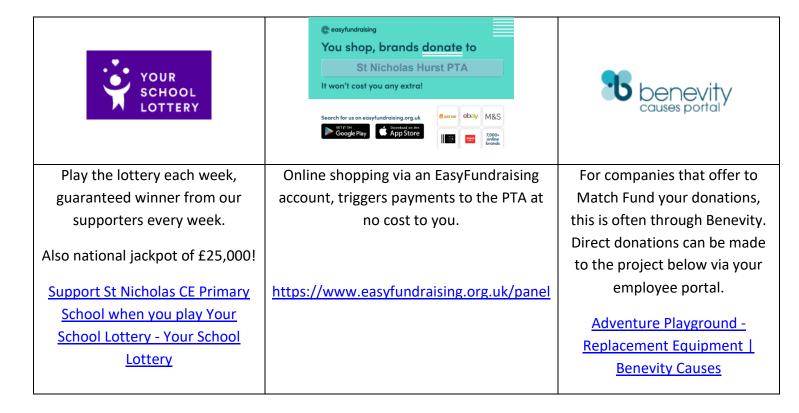
- King's Coronation Celebrations Friday 5thth May. If you'd like to be involved, contact Emma Henderson
- Beetle Drive Friday 19th May. Want to help or find out more email <u>PTAviceChair@st-</u>nicholas.wokingham.sch.uk.

Sowing seeds? If you're able to, please can you sow extra? We'd like to run a Bring and Buy Plant Sale. This will help us fund the children's Gardening Club which has annual PTA investment for soil, seeds, and other supplies. Thank you

Bag2School 3rd May 8:15 - 9am – Donate unwanted, good quality clothes and textiles, and the school is paid 50p per Kg. What can be donated? -> <u>Bag 2 School.</u> A great opportunity for a clear out!

Happy Easter everyone, have a lovely 2 weeks, PTA Committee

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



Date	Event	Raised	What's Needed	Request for help	Main Contact
Fri 05 May 23	King's Coronation Celebration		More details to follow	Please contact Emma Henderson	Emma Henderson
Fri 19 May 23	Family Bettledrive (+BBQ?)			Please contact Shanae Eastland	Shanae Eastland
May	Bake Sale (Xr TBD)		£ to buy cakes		
Sat 24 Jun 23	Hurst Show		Donations of wine etc for tombola; gift items for raffle hampers; toys and games for children's games	We'll need helpers on our stall for the whole weekend, booking in <u>1 hour</u> long slots	Kirsty Dowding
Sun 25 Jun 23	Hurst Show				
July	Bake / Ice cream Sale (<u>Yr</u> TBD)		£ to buy cakes / ice creams		
October	Auction Night			Donations of prizes or promises; People willing to ask the community for donations	Shanae Eastland



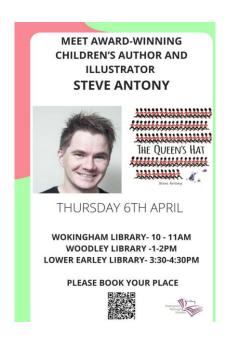
Community News

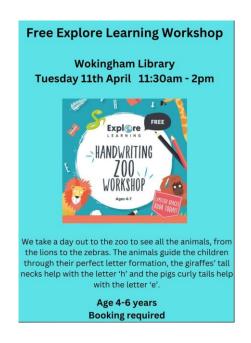


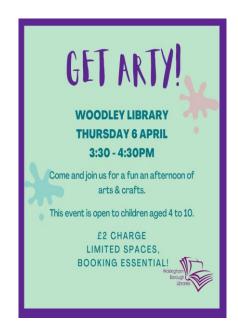




Easter/Spring Library Activities







Get Arty

Spring and Easter crafts for 4 - 10year-olds. £2 per child **Booking required**

Woodley Library	Monday 3 rd April	3:30-4:30pm	
Lower Earley Library	Tuesday 4 th April	3:30-4:30pm	
Woodley Library	Thursday 6 th April	3:30-4:30pm	
Spencers Wood Library	Thursday 13 th April	10:30-11:30am	
Wokingham Library	Friday 14 th April	10:30-11:30am	

Steve Antony- author visit on Thursday 6th April

Chance to meet ward winning author and illustrator of The Queen Hat's Series - Steve Antony. There are 4 picture books in the series which feature famous landmarks in London. Part one was nominated for the Kate Greenaway Award and adapted into a musical by the London Symphony Orchestra.

Booking required

No charge

Wokingham Library	10-11 am
Woodley Library	1-2 pm
Lower Earley Library	3:30-4:30pm

Let's Colour In: 1 - Watch the Birdie!

A tu-whit-tu-whoo to all 7-10 year olds to fly to a fun art session with artist Chris Holley. Wokingham Library

Thursday 13th April- 2-3pm

£3 per child

Booking essential

Explore Learning

Free taster session Booking required

Wokingham	11/4/23	11:30am-2pm	A Handwriting Workshop	4-6 years
Woodley	12/4/23	11:30-2	A Spring in your step	7-9 years
Lower Earley	13/4/23	3-5:30pm	Fun with phonics	4-6 years



FREE FUNDED SPACES FOR YOUR FSM CHILDREN AT OUR EASTER HOLIDAY CLUBS RUNNING IN WOKINGHAM

- St Paul's Junior School RG41 2YJ
- Floreat Montague Park Primary School RG40 1BG
- Willow Bank Junior School RG5 4PN
- St Crispin's Leisure Centre RG40 ISR

Junior Adventures Group (JAG) are delighted to be working in partnership with the local authority to support the Holiday Activities and Food programme (HAF) which is designed to provide children on Free School Meals with the opportunity to access a minimum of 4 hours of holiday activities and for FREE. For more information please visit: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/holiday-activities-and-food-programme/holiday-activities-and-food-programme-2021.

This Easter, JAG are delighted to have secured funding for children on Free School Meals and would like to offer places at our Easter Holiday Club provision at **a number of venues in Wokingham** for eligible children at your school. This will help support these families with equal opportunities to access engaging activities and healthy food.

Sounds good?! Send over to your eligible families today and allow them to experience a holiday like no other this Easter!

If this is of interest to your families, please share the attached template with your eligible families which includes information about the HAF scheme, what to expect at JAG this Easter holidays, booking information and contact information for any further enquiries. We also have a dedicated webpage available for families to access via our Parent Support page here: https://www.junioradventuresgroup.co.uk/parent-support/haf.

What are the benefits for children on Free School Meals?

In partnership with the local authority, JAG's HAF programme will offer families in need of additional support FREE access to book their children into out-of-school activities during the holidays. This vitally important programme helps ensure that children:

- ✓ Stay active during the school holidays
- ✓ Take part in enriching, engaging activities that support their development
- ✓ Eat healthily during the holidays
- ✓ Are safe, socialise and make new friends

What to expect at JAG this Easter Holidays?

Spring into the Easter Holidays with JAG! Their brand-new activity programme promises an exciting adventure around every corner, with a range of activities designed to keep children active, build their confidence, enhance their wellbeing and more – all with a fun and egg-citing Easter twist! With an awe-inspiring mix of multi-activity programming spread across seven core categories, JAG's passionate staff ensure no day is ever the same, making our children's time at JAG their favourite time! Check out the activities on offer below:

- Super Sports: action-packed multi-sport sessions!
- Spower Teams: fun, movement-based activities, and challenges!
- Olobal Kids: a chance to practice life skills through a range of engaging learning experiences!
- 👃 Zen Masters: activities that promote physical, emotional, and personal wellbeing and happiness!
- Creative Inventors: exciting opportunities for children to express themselves creatively!
- Brain Boosters: captivating games and puzzles to entrain and perplex!

Want to find out more about the programme? Get in contact today

For further information on how we support families and local authority partners during the school holidays, please visit https://www.junioradventuresgroup.co.uk/parent-support/haf/. Otherwise, please do not hesitate to contact our friendly bookings team via email at hello@junioradventuresgroup.co.uk or telephone 0333 577 1533.

You may also wish to contact Hannah Norris, our funding partner directly at JAG to chat over how we can support your children through the HAF scheme!

- Email <u>hannah.norris@junioradventuresgroup.co.uk</u>
- Phone 07729122071



The My Journey Wokingham team will be running an Easter Bike Bonanza on Thursday 13th April from 11.00 - 15.00 at the FBC centre, Finchampstead. This free family event is suitable for all ages, from young children who would like to try a balance bike, children who are learning to ride a pedal bike, or confident cyclists who would like to tackle the bike obstacle course. Adults or children can also bring their bikes to be checked by our Doctor Bike. There will be prizes and freebies for participants!

Further details of the event can be found here:

https://www.myjourneywokingham.com/events/bike-bonanza-thursday-13-april/

Bikeability holiday courses

For any children who missed out on **Bikeability** training at school, Avanti Cycling will be running **Bikeability Level 1/Level 2** courses in Woodley in the Easter holidays (open to children in Years 5, 6 or 7.)

See details here:

https://www.myjourneywokingham.com/events/bikeability-easter-courses-at-woodford-park-leisure-centre/

For confident riders who have already passed Level 2, there is the opportunity to take a **Bikeability Level 3** course, to improve their confidence cycling on busier roads, roundabouts and more complex junctions. These one day courses are open to pupils in Years 6, 7, 8 or 9. Details at this link:

https://www.myjourneywokingham.com/events/bikeability-easter-courses-at-woodford-park-leisure-centre/



