

The St Nicholas Post

Dear Parents and Carers,

17th March 2024

School has been a busy place! The children of St Nicholas get a great deal, they have really high quality teaching and learning every day in their lessons, but we don't accept that this is where learning begins and ends. We know that personal development comes from both academic pursuit but equally from the wider curriculum that the children receive. This is why we work hard to take as many opportunities for the children to grow in every aspect and to show our values. Do enjoy looking at just some of the things we have been up to this term.

Mrs Kennedy

An Eco Update

Thank you to parents and children who are trying hard to cut down unnecessary packaging in their children's lunch. Wrapper free Wednesday is an excellent initiative from our Eco Ambassadors. We also Love the reusable sandwich bags which are being used!



The ambassadors have also been busy leaving a legacy of trees! Mrs Hall took them to plant saplings. They were privileged to take part in one of the tree planting days at Reculver, arranged by Kent Stour Countryside Partnership. Everyone planted their saplings with care ensuring they had all they needed to thrive in their new homes! Everyone was filled with pride as they looked at how many trees they had planted, and thoughts of the positive impact they were making sprung to mind. They left their planting experience energised and feeling positive about how they can continue to contribute towards a greener more sustainable future.



World Book Day

Book week turned out to be a huge success. The Reading Breakfast Café was a personal highlight, it is lovely to open our doors to parents. Having opportunities for us to work together for the children is such a privilege and a joy and truly what makes St Nicks such a wonderful community. All week, the children were immersed in a range of enriching events from giant story books to drama enactments of Macbeth and the Gruffalo, guest readers in class to potato competitions, they loved the 'Masked Reader' and we loved seeing them dressed as their favourite character! Of course, the true success of Book Week lies in the fact that the children are now talking about reading more than ever. They have become more enthusiastic readers, and the momentum of reading has continued to grow. This is why we put in so much effort and planning. Reading not only opens up the entire curriculum to children, but it also introduces them to a world of fascination, empathy, knowledge, imagination, and wonder. We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to Mrs Bullard for organizing all the wonderful events!



Keep Reading Everyone!



Links:

I have been made aware that the previous links did not work.

Reading influencer story telling and 'The Masked Reader' can be found [here](#).



The MORE that you
READ, the more things
you will KNOW.
The MORE that you
LEARN, the more places
you'll GO.

Red Nose day

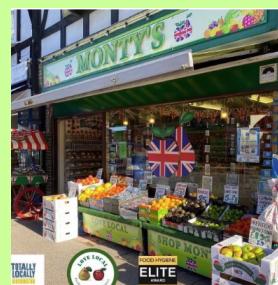
Thank you to the children of St Nicholas for making RND the fun it was! You embodied the spirit of the day and the children were so keen to share their jokes and one liners! Well done to Maisie and April our schools official best 'Jokers' Thank you to Mr Ford and the Junior Leadership team for coming up with the initiative!



Attendance Update. School Days are School Days

The schools current attendance stands at 95.1% We are above the national average and indeed the Kent average. I want to see this figure rise even further. There is such a strong correlation between attendance at school, and future success. This is why we work on it. We want the very best for the children.

Thank you to **Monty's of Birchington** for supplying all the fruit for our Reading Cafés. It was really fresh and delicious and we love to work with our parents and local community!



Key Dates

27 th March	Parents Evening 1.20pm-7pm
28 th March	Easter Service – Church End of Term 2pm Finish 2pm – PTFA Easter Egg Hunt
29 th March	Good Friday Bank Holiday
Term 5	
15 th April	Start of Term
16 th April	Primary school offers sent by KCC
18 th April	Year 5 Egyptian Day
22 nd April	World Earth Day
1 st May	Class Photos
6 th May	Bank Holiday – School Closed
16 th May	Year 6 Residential meeting at 3.15pm Year 5 Kent Test and Residential meeting at 6pm
24 th May	End of Term

TOTAL SPORTS COACHING

EASTER HALF-TERM

WEEK ONE

HAF CAMPS
Under 1 Roof: 02/04 - 05/04
Hartsdown Academy: 02/04 - 05/04
St. Mary's: 02/04 - 05/04

MULTI - SPORTS
Ramsgate Holy Trinity: 02/04 - 05/04

MULTI - SPORTS AND SWIMMING
Wellesley Haddon Dene: 02/04 - 05/04

WEEK TWO

HAF CAMPS
Under 1 Roof: 08/04 - 11/04
Garlinge Primary School: 08/04 - 11/04
King Ethelbert's School: 08/04 - 11/04
Cheriton Primary School: 08/04 - 11/04

SOCcer SCHOOL
Ramsgate FC: 08/04 - 10/04

MULTI - SPORTS
Ramsgate Holy Trinity: 08/04 - 11/04

MULTI - SPORTS AND SWIMMING
Wellesley Haddon Dene: 08/04 - 11/04

Find out more below
www.tscoaching.co.uk

FOR HAF CAMPS PLEASE BOOK VIA THE E-VOUCHER SENT OUT BY SCHOOLS

You are the most important people in your child's life—so a strong positive relationship between us is crucial in making sure children are happy and thrive at school. A few tips:

1 Listen to them read

This is so important - even if it's a book they've already read, or you read some, they read some.

Share books together, make it enjoyable.

Model reading: It is so vital



2 Try to find out about their day

You'll be met with the inevitable 'nothing'.

Ask questions around it:

What sound did you do in phonics?

Who did you play with? What made you proud today? What did you learn in maths?



3 Don't push if they won't tell you

Try feeding them before you ask them. Wait a while and try a different question later. They may need some down time before they talk to you about their day.



Choose your time :)

4 Home work—if it's a battle, stop

It doesn't help anyone to have a screaming session regarding homework. If it is causing your child to be upset—stop and talk to the teacher about it. It can be hard enough fitting it into busy family life without tears—sometimes from both parties!



5 Get both sides of a story

If your child has come home upset, of course you want to know why. Ask the school for their view.

Children don't always tell it exactly how it was.

When we work together we will more likely have all the information.

6 Use our website

Our website has lots of resources for you to support your child. Like the calculation policy, reading suggestions and questions to support reading.

Videos, links and dates for you to attend workshops.

<https://www.st-nicholas-birchington.kent.sch.uk/>

7 Raise a concern early

Don't let it fester! We don't want you to have a niggle that could grow. Talk to us straight away, a 5 minute chat could save a lot of worry later. We want to resolve issues as much as you—but we need to know them.



8 Ask how you can help

We are always happy to pass work your way! Be specific, ask about a particular subject, how can I help with their spelling? What can I do to help their adding? What vocabulary do they need for this topic? What sounds are they finding hard...

9 Don't moan in front of the children

We are all allowed to have a moan—I know I did about my children's schools (only occasionally)

Don't let the children hear, they listen to everything and it shapes their view of school. We must be a team and be seen to be a team.



10 Remember...

We want the same as you! Happy, safe children who learn and work hard. A school where kindness is the default and our school family is united.

We may not always get it right, but we never, ever set out to get it wrong.