



St. Nicholas Catholic Primary School

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Executive Principal: Mr N Porter

Love, live and learn with Jesus Christ.

Dear Parents & Carers,

Friday 27th October 2023

Happy Half Term!

We have had a happy & successful Autumn 1. A particular 'well done' to our Reception class pupils who have settled well into school life.

Wishing everyone a restful week. We will see all pupils back in school at 8.50am on **Tuesday 7th November**.

October is the month of the Holy Rosary

It has been wonderful to experience the rosary as part of the prayer life of our school during October. It has also been heartening to hear that some pupils have been praying the rosary at home and that some have been given rosary beads by relatives. We hope that we all continue to find time to pray the rosary and ask Our Lady to intercede for us.

Remembrance

As November approaches, we will be entering the season of remembrance when we pray for the souls of our dead relatives and friends. We will be putting together our 'Remembrance Wall' in the entrance area of school as we did last year. If you wish to put on the wall the name or photograph of a deceased loved one then please drop these into the school office from Tuesday 7th November.

Poppy Appeal

In keeping with the season of remembrance, our Y5 pupils will be leading our St Nicholas Poppy Appeal for the Royal British Legion. Y5 pupils will be visiting classes every afternoon during w/c 6th November (aside from Monday which is an INSET day). They will be offering classic poppies as well as other merchandise from the legion such as rulers and wristbands. **There is a minimum donation of 50p for poppies and £1 for other items.** Please send money in with your child during the first week back after half term.

Gospel Virtues

Pupils continue to strive to be more *GENEROUS* and *GRATEFUL* this half term as they are led by Gospel values & virtues. Teachers are looking out for pupils who live out these virtues and, when they see them in action, they send that person to Mrs Noble-Barton for a wristband. Well done to Liam (Y5), Max (Y5), Joe (Y5), Nathan (Y5), Emily (Y3) & Isla S (Rec).

Wednesday Word

Please follow the link below to enjoy this week's Gospel as a family:

[Invitation](#)

PFA Christmas Fair - donation days

The next PFA event is the Christmas Fair on Saturday 25th November between 2pm and 4pm.

In preparation for this, the PFA needs your donations! Therefore, we will be inviting pupils to have some fun with their accessories in return for donations:

- **Friday 17th November - Silly Hair Day** in return for donations of boxes, tins & bars of chocolate.
- **Wednesday 22nd November - Silly Sock Day** in return for donations of bottles, this can be alcohol, soft drinks or bottles of bubble bath!

Please note that *neither of these days is a non-uniform day*. Full school uniform should be worn. Silly socks can be worn over tights for warmth if girls are wearing skirts.

Thank you in advance.

Safeguarding Newsletter

Every half term, one DSL from across our academy puts together a newsletter for parents on a current 'hot topic' in safeguarding. This half term's newsletter was put together by Mrs Vernalls from SS Mary & John school and is on the disturbing topic of 'Child Criminal Exploitation'. It is an informative and sobering read.

Centrestage Recital - 30th November 2023

Any child who takes Centrestage lessons through school is invited to take part in a recital on Thursday 30/11/23. Parents are also invited to attend. The recital begins at 4pm and lasts for approximately 45 minutes in the school hall. Pupils involved will not be dismissed at 3.30pm, they will have a final 30 minute rehearsal with Centrestage staff. If your child takes part in Centrestage but cannot attend the recital, please drop us an email to enquiry@ to let us know. Thank you.

Young Voices after school club

Young Voices choir will begin after school on **Wednesday 8th November from 3:30-4:30pm.**

The children will be given song sheets and the songs that they will be learning are available on Spotify.

[Young Voices 2023-24 - Music Pack - Spotify](#)

If you haven't yet made payment for your child's t-shirt and/or tickets, we would hugely appreciate it if you could do this as soon as possible as we have already paid Young Voices to secure them!

A reminder that the concert will take place on Friday 24th February at Resorts World Arena Birmingham from 7pm-9pm (approx.).

Winter Uniform required after half term

All pupils will be expected to return to school after half term wearing **winter uniform**. Please follow the link below if you need to check what winter uniform expectations are. Thank you.

[Link to School Uniform Policy](#)

Dates of EYFS/KS1 Nativity Plays & KS2 Advent Prayer Services

- EYFS, Year 1 and Year 2 will be performing their Nativity play on **Tuesday 12th December at 9.15am and Wednesday 13th December at 9.15am**. Ticket information will be sent closer to the time. Two tickets per family (can be taken as 1 per performance if desired) will be made available to you.

Feedback from our recent Catholic Life, RE & Collective Worship parent survey has shown us that many of our parents would like to join in the prayer life of our school even more. This is fantastic! To this end, please see below invitations from KS2 to join them in Advent prayer:

- Parents & grandparents of pupils in Years 3 and 4 are invited to join them in an Advent Prayer Service at **2.30pm on Tuesday 19th December**. This is not a ticketed event.

- Parents & grandparents of pupils in Years 5 and 6 are invited to join them in an Advent Prayer Service at **2.30pm on Thursday 21st December**. This is not a ticketed event.

This week's attendance

Let's find out which class/es had the best attendance this week.

Year group	% attendance for w/c 23.10.23
Reception	96.67%
Year 1	97.78%
Year 2	96.67%
Year 3	96.11%
Year 4	97.78%

Year 5	93.33%	BELOW 95%
Year 6	93.33%	BELOW 95%
Well done to our joint winners...Year 1 and Year 4! You can negotiate a reward such as extra play time or supervised IPAD time.		

Do you know anyone with a child starting school in September 2024?

We will be holding four sessions for prospective parents which will feature a short presentation about the school followed by a tour of the school. This is an opportunity to see the school 'in action' and answer any questions you may have about the admissions process. The dates are listed below, please contact the school office on 0121 355 2649 or enquiry@stnicholassutton.org.uk to book a place.

- Monday 13/11 at 9.15am
- Tuesday 14/11 at 1.30pm
- Wednesday 15/11 at 11am
- Thursday 16/11 at 2.30pm

Weekly Maths challenge - 2 merit marks per correct answer!

This weekly maths puzzle is designed to encourage the whole family to talk about maths at home and provide the opportunity for parents, siblings and pupils to work together to solve the problem!

Gold Coin Challenge

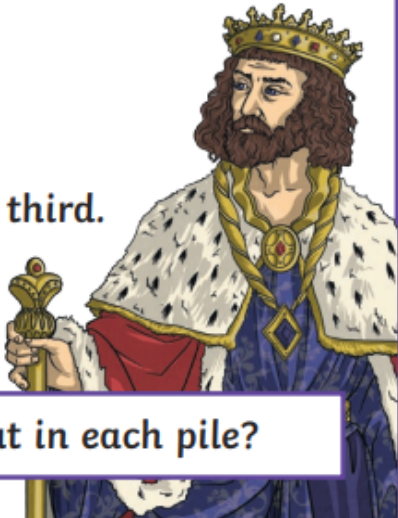
The King is counting his gold. He put 20 gold coins into four piles.

The first pile had four more coins than the second.

The second pile has one less coin than the third.

The fourth pile has twice as many coins as the second.

How many gold coins did The King put in each pile?



Email Miss Smith at mathschallenge@stnicholassutton.org.uk with the correct answer to win 2 merit marks!

Amazon wish list

'A book is a gift you can open again and again' - Garrison Keillor

Many thanks to everybody who has contributed to our growing classroom library at St Nicholas - it is greatly appreciated. If you would like to purchase a book for school for your child and their friends to enjoy, the wish lists below have been updated. Thank you.

[Reception](#)

[Year 1](#)

[Year 2](#)

[Year 3](#)

[Year 4](#)

[Year 5](#)

[Year 6](#)

Phonics home links

Group	Reading	Writing	Words to read
Reception	x	x	x Blending 1 Blending 2 Blending 3
Miss Beamond's purple group	ay ee	ay ee	Red Ken Billy the Kid
Miss Guest's purple group	air ir	air ir	Red words In the bath
Mrs Maguire's pink group	ay ee	ay ee	So cool!
Mrs Shephard's orange group	u-e oa ea	u-e oa ea	Too much!
Mrs Trappett's and Mrs Vale's yellow group	er ow ai	er ow ai	Reading longer words - ir, ur, er

Staff book recommendations

For KS1, Miss Smith recommends...

Inside the Villains by Clotilde Perrin

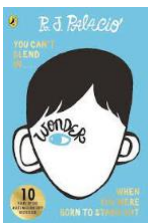


An extraordinary pop-up book that reveals the secrets of the most famous fairy tale villains: giants, wolves and witches. Lift the flaps to see the devilish tricks inside each villain's head, what's beneath their disguise, who was the victim of their last meal (now comfortably settled inside their stomach!). Read all about each villain on their personality card, which shows strengths and weaknesses.

[Click to purchase](#)

For KS2, Miss Godfrey recommends...

Wonder by R.J. Palacio



My name is August. I won't describe what I look like. Whatever you're thinking, it's probably worse.' Auggie wants to be an ordinary ten-year-old. He does ordinary things - eating ice cream, playing on his Xbox. He feels ordinary - inside. But ordinary kids don't make other ordinary kids run away screaming in playgrounds. Ordinary kids aren't stared at wherever they go. Born with a terrible facial abnormality, Auggie has been home-schooled by his parents his whole life. Now, for the first time, he's being sent to a real school - and he's dreading it. All he wants is to be accepted - but can he convince his new classmates that he's just like them, underneath it all?

[Click to purchase](#)

Dates for the diary

HALF TERM W.B 30/10/23

6/11/23	INSET day - school closed to pupils
17/11/23	Silly Hair Day - chocolate donations to PFA Christmas Fair
22/11/23	Silly Sock Day - bottle donations to PFA Christmas Fair
23/11/23	Year 5 theatre trip
(Sat) 25/11/23	PFA Christmas Fair in school hall - 2pm to 4pm
30/11/23	4pm - Recital involving all pupils who take 'Centrestage' lessons
5/12/23	KS1 theatre trip
12/12/23	EYFS & KS1 Nativity Play at 9.15am - TICKET ONLY
13/12/23	EYFS & KS1 Nativity Play at 9.15am - TICKET ONLY
19/12/23	Years 3 & 4 Advent Prayer Service - parents invited - 2.30pm
21/12/23	Years 5 & 6 Advent Prayer Service - parents invited - 2.30pm
22/12/23	End of Autumn Term - last day in school for pupils

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS W.B 25/12/23 & 1/1/24

8/1/24	Start of Spring Term - pupils back in school
23/2/24	Young Voices concert

PFA events

25/11/23	Christmas Fair from 2pm-4pm
20/12/23	Christmas Disco from 3.30pm-5pm
5/7/24	Summer Festival from 4pm-6pm

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Wishing you a wonderful half term,

Mr Porter
Executive Principal

Mrs Noble-Barton
Head of School

Miss Smith
Assistant Head



St. John Paul II Multi Academy

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