



**Together with Christ we  
love, live & learn.**

**St. Nicholas Catholic Primary School**

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Executive Principal: Mr N Porter

Head of School: Mrs C Nelly-Davies

Dear Parents & Carers,

Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2025

### **Welcome Back**

It's been wonderful to see everyone back at school and to hear all about your Easter breaks. We have a busy term ahead, so please be sure to read the weekly newsletter carefully and check Parentmail regularly for updates. Thank you in advance for your support!



### **A Prayer for Pope Francis**

**This week, we came together as a school community for a prayer liturgy to give thanks for the life and legacy of Pope Francis I.** Pupils reflected on some of Pope Francis's most inspiring quotes and teachings, including his words on the simple power of a smile: *"Let us always meet each other with a smile, for the smile is the beginning of love."* They were encouraged to think deeply about how they can live out his message in their daily lives. We also prayed for the Conclave of Cardinals meeting in Rome this coming week, asking that the Holy Spirit guide them in choosing the right successor to lead the Church. Once the new Pope is announced, we will continue to pray for him as he begins his ministry as shepherd of the global Catholic community.

### **Our Jubilee Year Journey at St Nicholas**

As we continue our Jubilee Year journey at St Nicholas, it now takes on even greater significance, as it was Pope Francis who instituted this special year of celebration and reflection.

On Friday, pupils took part in a school pilgrimage, visiting the beautiful displays each class has created on different Catholic pilgrimage sites around the world. This was a meaningful opportunity for students to deepen their understanding of faith and tradition.

They also had the chance to meet *Luce*, our Jubilee mascot, and learn about the powerful symbolism she represents.

Don't forget to check our Twitter feed for lots of photos from the day!  
**Our journey continues...**



### **Wednesday Word**

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

[Click HERE for the Wednesday Word](#)

### **'Stay and...' Fridays Continue!**

Our successful *Stay and Pray* sessions are now on pause and will resume in the Autumn Term. However, Friday mornings at 8:50am will continue to be a special 'Stay and...' time, where parents, grandparents, and carers are warmly invited into school to share in their child's learning and spiritual journey.

This term, we're excited to introduce **Stay and Count**. You're invited to drop your child off, then join us in the hall to take part in a short, structured maths activity together. It's a meaningful way to support your child's development and enjoy learning side by side. Dates are as follows:

Year 5 - Friday 23rd May

Year 4 - Friday 6th June

EYFS - Friday 13th June

Year 3 - Friday 20th June

Year 6 - Friday 27th June

**Year 2 - Thursday 3rd July (due to INSET day on Friday 4th)**

Year 1 - Friday 11th July

### **Pencil cases - a request**

We've recently noticed that some children are becoming distracted during learning time due to overly elaborate pencil cases. While we know that choosing and bringing a pencil case can be exciting, those with drawers, compartments, gadgets, and attachments are proving to be a bit of a distraction in the classroom.

To help maintain a calm and focused learning environment, we kindly ask that if your child does bring a pencil case to school, it should be plain and simple. Please also note that children do not need to bring their own stationery—we provide all the necessary resources they need for learning. Thank you for your support and understanding as we work together to keep our classrooms distraction-free and focused.

### **Sutton Charities Trust: School Clothing Grant - Apply Now**

The SCCT (Sutton Coldfield Charitable Trust) School Clothing Grant Scheme is still open for new applications.

Parents and carers are encouraged to visit the SCCT website to check eligibility and apply. To begin the process, you will need to read the guidance notes and complete a short eligibility quiz before accessing the application form.

Visit the link below to see if you are eligible and to apply:

 [School clothing grant link](#)

### **Is Your Child Starting Pre-School in September 2025?**

If you or someone you know has a child who will be of preschool age by September 2025, consider getting in touch with Mrs. Carole Baird at Lighthouse Pre-School. She currently has a few spaces available in her warm, inclusive, and creatively focused setting.

You can contact Mrs Baird on: [lighthousechildcare2023@outlook.com](mailto:lighthousechildcare2023@outlook.com)

## PFA News

### Thank you

A heartfelt thank you to Maria Higginson for organising the successful *Sound Bowl* event in school on Friday night. It was a fantastic evening and raised vital funds for the PFA. We're so grateful for the time, energy, and enthusiasm that went into making it such a success.

### PFA Summer Fair

#### Having a Clear-Out This Bank Holiday?

The organising committee for the Summer Fair (28th June - pop it in your diaries!) is kindly asking for donations of good quality toys and teddies for one of our stalls. Donations can be brought in at any time - thank you for your support!

### Easy Fundraising - Our PFA is Now Registered! Support Us While You Shop!

We've registered St Nicholas PFA with easyfundraising, which means over 8,000 retailers will now donate to us for FREE every time you use easyfundraising to shop with them. These donations will help SO MUCH, so please sign up to support us - it's completely FREE and doesn't take long.

Thanks, the PFA Team

👉 [Easyfundraising St Nicholas PFA](#)

### Join the Captain Nick Crew in the Great Midlands Fun Run - Help Us Raise £5,000 for St Nicholas School!

Ten determined dads — the Captain Nick Crew — are running the Great Midlands Fun Run on 1 June 2025 to raise £5,000 for a new audio-visual system for St Nicholas School.

Everyone is welcome to join the run or support their fundraising efforts!

- Sign up: <https://royalsuttonfunrun.org>
- Donate: <https://bit.ly/nickcrewfun>

For more info, contact Matt Gannon or the PFA.



### Year 6 Vocations Week

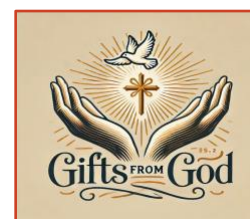
As part of our forthcoming Vocations Week in Year 6, we would like to invite you to share your career journey, experiences, and insights with our students. This is a wonderful opportunity to highlight how each of us is called to use our God-given gifts and talents in our work and daily lives as well as the diverse paths that lead us there. Please note that your child doesn't have to be in Y6 to take part. Vocations Week will be held from **Monday 23rd-Friday 27th June 2025**, and we are looking for volunteers who would be willing to speak about their careers, discuss the skills and education needed for their field, and answer any questions our students may have. If you are interested in participating, please get in touch with Miss Smith via [enquiry@stnicholassutton.org.uk](mailto:enquiry@stnicholassutton.org.uk).

### Gifts from God assemblies - future dates

During Summer 1, our school will host 'Gifts from God' celebration assemblies on the following dates:

- 9/5/25
- 23/5/25

These assemblies are an opportunity for pupils to reflect on and celebrate the gifts and talents given to them by God.



### A Date for Your Diary - School Music Concert

We are excited to announce that our school music concert will take place on **Thursday 26th June at 4pm** in the school hall.

Pupils who receive peripatetic music lessons in school will be invited to perform and showcase what they've been learning. This also includes all of Year 4, who will be sharing their progress from their whole-class music tuition.

We really hope that all participating pupils will be able to attend. If, for any reason, your child is unable to join us, please email [enquiry@stnicholassutton.org.uk](mailto:enquiry@stnicholassutton.org.uk) to let us know.

Please note that you will not need to collect your child at 3:30pm on the day of the concert. Music teachers will supervise the children for a short rehearsal ahead of the performance.

We look forward to seeing you there to celebrate our pupils' musical achievements!

### Attendance

Let's see which class had the highest attendance this week...

Year group	Attendance for w/c 28th April
EYFS	99.32% <b>WINNERS!</b>
Year 1	97.59%
Year 2	97.67%
Year 3	97.74%
Year 4	98.39%
Year 5	95.33%
Year 6	91.33%
Well done to this week's winners...EYFS! You can choose your reward next week.	

### Reminder: Remaining INSET Days

A reminder that we have three remaining INSET days this academic year:

- **Monday, 2nd June**
- **Friday, 4th July**
- **Monday, 21st July**

Thank you for your support in noting these important dates.

### Dates for the diary

<b>Easter Holidays</b> School closed weeks commencing 14th April and 21st April 2025 All pupils back in school on Monday 28th April	
Thursday 8th May	Y1 trip to Botanical Gardens
Friday 9th May	Gifts from God assembly at 2.45pm

Monday 12th May to Thursday 15th May inclusive	Key Stage 2 SATs tests administered
Friday 16th May	Year 3 trip to Blists Hill Victorian Town
Friday 16th May	Official photographers to take Y6 leavers' photos
Friday 16th May	Sacrament of Confirmation for Y6 confirmandi celebrated by Bishop David Evans - 7pm
Monday 19th May	Years 4 & 5 making a Year of Jubilee pilgrimage to Oscott College
Thursday 22nd May	Theatre company in school for performance of 'The Secret Garden'
Friday 23rd May	Year 5 - Stay & Count - 8.50am
Friday 23rd May	Gifts from God assembly at 2.45pm
Friday 23rd May	Last day of Summer 1 - break up for half term
<b>May half term</b> School closed during week commencing 26th May 2025	
Monday 2nd June	INSET Day - school closed to pupils
Tuesday 3rd June	Year 4 TT Rockstars Day
Thursday 5th June	PFA meeting in school - time TBC
Friday 6th June	Year 4 - Stay & Count - 8.50am
Tuesday 3rd June to Friday 13th June	Multiplication Tables Check administered to Y4 pupils
W/c Monday 9th June	Phonics Screening Check administered to Year 1
W/c Monday 9th June	Fathers' Day 'Secret Reader'
Friday 13th June	EYFS - Stay & Count - 8.50am
Friday 13th June	Gifts from God assembly at 2.45pm

Thursday 19th June	Year 6 visiting 'Big Bang Fair' at NEC
Friday 20th June	Year 3 - Stay & Count - 8.50am
Friday 20th June	Year 6 visiting Oscott College all day as part of work on vocations
Friday 20th June	Year 3 'Money Day'
Sunday 22nd June Time TBC	All Year 3 pupils who have received their Holy Communion are invited to attend the 'Going Forth' Mass at 11am wearing their FHC clothes - official p/graphers in school beforehand.
W/c 23rd June	Year 6 Vocations Week
Thursday 26th June	Music Concert 4pm - school hall All of Y4 (guitar) and any pupil who has peripatetic music lessons in any instrument.
Friday 27th June	Year 6 - Stay & Count - 8.50am
Friday 27th June	Gifts from God assembly - 2.45pm
Saturday 28th June	PFA Summer Fair 1pm to 3pm
Wednesday 2nd July	Transition Day - Year 6 to their new secondary schools
Thursday 3rd July	Year 2 - Stay & Count - 8.50am
Friday 4th July	INSET day - all MAC schools closed to pupils
Monday 7th July	Sports' Day at Braemar Fields (a reserve date of 14/7 has been booked in case of inclement weather on 7th)
Wednesday 9th to Friday 11th July	Year 6 residential trip to Blackwell Adventure
Friday 11th July	Year 1 - Stay & Count - 8.50am
Friday 11th July	Gifts from God assembly - 2.45pm - FINAL OF THE YEAR
Saturday 12th July	Y6 Leavers' Mass in church at 6pm
Wednesday 16th July	9.10am - Year 6 Leavers' Assembly

	(certificates/medals/trophies only to Year 6 and their siblings)
Friday 18th July	9.15am - Whole School end of year Mass in church
Friday 18th July	End of academic year 2024-25 for pupils

God bless,

Mr Porter

Mrs Noble-Barton

Miss Smith

Executive Principal

Head of School

Assistant Head