



Thursday 6th April 2023

Dear Parents & Carers,

Holy Week & Easter

All staff & governors of St Nicholas Catholic Primary School wish you and your family a holy, peaceful & safe Easter break.

Attached to this email you find the Mass times at various local Catholic churches across the Easter Triduum (Maundy Thursday, Good Friday & Easter Sunday) so that you can plan your Mass attendance accordingly.

The events of Holy Week & Easter lie at the heart of what we believe as Catholic Christians, that God sent His only son to be a sacrifice for our sin. During this Holy Week and subsequent Easter season let us long for the closeness of Our Lord and let us thank Him for His wonderful sacrifice:

As a deer longs for flowing streams, so my soul longs for you, O God. My soul thirsts for God for the living God. When shall I come and behold the face of God? O send out your light and your truth; let them lead me; let them bring me to your holy hill and to your dwelling. Then I will go to the altar of God to God my exceeding joy; and I will praise you with the harp, O God, my God. (Psalm 42)

Thank you for your support during this Spring Term. We look forward to welcoming all pupils back for the Summer Term on Monday 24th April 2023.

Gospel Virtues

This half term we are focusing on becoming more LEARNED and WISE. Staff members have been looking for pupils who have been living out these virtues. Pupils who have received a virtues wristband this week are: Jacob (Y6) & Saffron (Y4).

Next half term, we will be growing to be more CURIOUS and ACTIVE.

Wednesday Word - please follow this link to enjoy this weekend's Gospel as a family

[Click here for the Wednesday Word](#)

Mini Vinnies Easter raffle

Congratulations to Anna (Y6), Dan (Y6), Rory (Y4), Patrick (Y4) & Jonjo (Y3) whose parents/grandparents chose the winning numbers in the Mini Vinnies' raffle held after the Passion Play performances.

Thank you to Miss Gamlen, Mrs Maguire & the Mini Vinnies for organising this event which raised a total of £378.30 to be split between Place2Be and Make a Wish.

Attached to this email is the latest 'Mini Vinnies' newsletter which gives you information about what this faith-based group have been doing this half term.

Year 5 curriculum workshop - Tuesday 25th April 2023

A reminder for parents & carers of our Y5 pupils that the curriculum workshop for this year group will take place on the above date. The workshop starts at 9am and runs until around 10.30am. The purpose of the workshop is to empower parents with knowledge of the Y5 curriculum & to give you the opportunity to experience the types of teaching methods which are used. You will work with your child to complete various activities in a variety of curriculum areas. The workshop for this year group will also touch upon some of the things we do in the summer term of Y5 to get the class ready for the challenges of Y6.

If you cannot attend then please consider asking a grandparent/aunt/uncle to attend on your behalf. If this is the case then please email their name to enquiry@stnicholassutton.org.uk

INSET Day - Thursday 6th July

Please note that the St John Paul II MAC has designated Thursday 6th July 2023 as an INSET day. School will be closed to pupils on this day and will reopen on Friday 7th July.

Amazon wish list

Many thanks to all of the parents who have kindly donated books from our wish list. Your contribution to our growing love of reading at St Nicholas is greatly appreciated. For anybody who would like to purchase a book for children to enjoy, the links are as follows:

[Reception](#) [Year 1](#) [Year 2](#) [Year 3](#) [Year 4](#) [Year 5](#) [Year 6](#)

April's word of the month

We have had some **treacherous** weather during the month of March. Let's hope that we see some brighter days during April. A new month sees a new word to add to our growing vocabulary; **April's word of the month is: exhilarating**. We will look forward to seeing this word in your writing!

Year 6 Careers Week (Monday 3rd - Friday 7th July)

As our Year 6 pupils prepare to embark on their secondary school journey, we would like to give them an insight into the wealth of employment opportunities open to them. With this in mind, we are organising a 'Careers Week' and would like to invite parents and/or family members to share their jobs with our pupils. This would involve discussing the following: route to employment including subjects suitable to take forward in Year 9, entailment of your job role and why you enjoy it, opportunities for progression and personal experiences. If this is something that you would be interested in, please email enquiry@stnicholassutton.org.uk. Thank you.

Phonics home links

[Pink](#)

[Grey](#)

[Orange 1](#)

[Orange 2](#)

[Green 1](#)



[Yellow 1](#)

[Yellow 2](#)

[Red 1](#)

[Red 2](#)

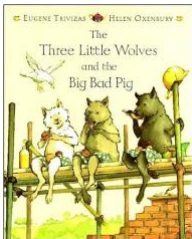
[Red 3](#)

[Fast track 1](#)

Staff Book Recommendations

For KS1, Mr Reid recommends...

The Three Little Wolves and the Big Bad Pig by Eugene Trivizas



The three little wolves erect first a solid brick house. The big bad pig comes along and when huffing and puffing fails to work, he uses a sledgehammer to bring the house down. Next they build a home of concrete: The pig demolishes it with his pneumatic drill. The three little wolves choose an even stronger design next time round: They erect a house, made of steel, barbed wire, armour plates and video entry system, but the pig finds a way to demolish it too. It is only when the wolves construct a rather fragile house made of cherry blossoms, daffodils, pink roses, and marigolds that the pig has a change of heart...

[Click to purchase](#)

For KS2, Mr Porter recommends...



The Parent Agency by David Baddiel

Barry Bennett hates being called Barry. In fact it's number 2 on the list of things he blames his parents for, along with 1) 'being boring' and 3) 'always being tired'. But there is a world, not far from this one, where parents don't have children. That's far too random for something so big and important. In this world, children are allowed to choose their parents. For Barry Bennett, this world seems like a dream come true. Only things turn out to be not quite that simple...

[Click to purchase](#)

Dates for your diary

Monday 24/4	First day of Summer Term for all pupils
Tuesday 25/4	Year 5 curriculum workshop for parents - 9am
Tuesday 25/4	Year 4 visit to Birmingham Central Library
Weds 26/4 - Fri 28/4	Year 5 residential retreat to Alton Castle

Thurs 27/4	Year 3 First Holy Communion Retreat from One Life Music
Mon 1/5	May Day - Bank Holiday
Mon 8/5	King's Coronation - Bank Holiday
Tues 9/5 - Fri 12/5	KS2 SATs Tests (Y6) to be administered
Weds 7/6 - Fri 9/6	Year 6 residential trip to Blackwell Adventure
Thurs 6/7	MAC INSET Day - school closed to pupils



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