



## St. Nicholas Catholic Primary School

Jockey Road, Sutton Coldfield B73 5US E:  
enquiry@stnicholassutton.org.uk  
T: 0121 355 2649 F: 0121 355 6303  
W: www.stnicholassutton.org.uk  
Executive Principal: Mr N Porter

*Love, live and learn with Jesus Christ.*

Dear Parents & Carers,

Friday 20<sup>th</sup> October 2023

### October is the month of the Holy Rosary

This week, St Nicholas pupils joined in with a catholic charity's aim to have 1,000,000 children praying the Rosary for peace on the same day. On Wednesday, we responded to the call from 'Aid to the Church in Need' to pray a decade of the glorious mysteries and pray for peace in our world. It was a wonderful occasion.

### 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 Leo (Y3), Isla (Y3), Henry (Y3), Orla (Y3) & Hugo (Y3).

### Wednesday Word

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

[Invitation](#)

### Individual, sibling & family photographs

On Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> October we will welcome Academy Photography back to our school to take individual photos of each pupil. If a child has siblings attending our school then they will also have a photo together. If a child has siblings not attending our school (such as preschoolers) or you want a family photo, then you can arrive in the school hall for **8.30am** to have your photos taken. All other photos will be taken during school time.

***Please note that all pupils should wear full school uniform on this day. If your child's class is scheduled to have PE (Year 2, Year 3 & Year 6) then please send them in full uniform but put a pair of trainers in their bag.***

### Parents' Evenings

We look forward to welcoming parents into school on Tuesday 24/10 and Wednesday 25/10 for ten minute appointments with class teachers. Pupils' English, Maths & RE books will be available in classrooms for you to look through. This parent/teacher consultation is to discuss how the child has settled into the new year group and to give you some additional pointers on how to support your child at home. **Please note that children should not attend Parents' Evening.** Thank you.

### PFA Cake Sale

Our PFA will be holding a cake sale in the school hall straight after school on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> October. Please note that dismissing pupils will be normal, they should visit the cake sale with their adult. Pupils going to Lighthouse Club can bring some money & buy a cake before they go over to the hut. A lovely way for the children to finish this half term!

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

- EYFS, Year 1 and Year 2 will be performing their Nativity play on **Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December at 9.15am** and **Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> 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 19<sup>th</sup> 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 21<sup>st</sup> December**. This is not a ticketed event.

### 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](#)

### INSET Days

A reminder that Friday 27th October is an INSET day and school is closed to pupils. This means that pupils' last day of Autumn 1 will be Thursday 26/10. Half term is w/c 30/10.

Monday 6th November is also an INSET day and so the first day of Autumn 2 for pupils will be Tuesday 7th November. This has happened because of the dates that external training providers are available.

### This week's attendance

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

Year group	% attendance for w/c 16.10.23	
Reception	100%	WELL DONE!
Year 1	95.83%	
Year 2	97.92%	
Year 3	93.75%	BELOW 95%
Year 4	99.17%	
Year 5	99.58%	
Year 6	92.5%	BELOW 95%
Congratulations to Reception class who are this week's winners! You can have some reward time from Mrs Bowen.		

### 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](mailto: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

### Young Voices

We are looking forward to the Young Voices concert on **Friday 23rd February 2024**. Weekly choir practice will begin on **Wednesday 8th November 2023 from 3:30-4:30pm**. Thank you to everybody who has already paid for their t-shirt and tickets. These have all been ordered now and Young Voices require immediate payment from us. If you are yet to pay, we would be hugely grateful if you could do so as soon as possible. Thank you.

### 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!

## Train Ride Challenge

A train ride ticket at the fair costs less than 20p but more than 15p.

Using each coin only once, how much could the ticket cost if you paid for ticket using exactly 3 coins?

How many ways could you do it?



twinkl.com

Email Miss Smith at [mathschallenge@stnicholassutton.org.uk](mailto:mathschallenge@stnicholassutton.org.uk) with the correct answer to win 2 merit marks!

## Word of the month

# exquisite

Definition: extremely beautiful and delicate

*Slowly opening the imposing, wooden door, a grand hallway could be seen with exquisite, shimmering chandeliers dangling from the hand-crafted ceiling.*

### Synonyms:

Excellent, wonderful, well-crafted, beautiful, precious, magnificent.



### Antonyms:

Drab, ugly, cheap, flawed, imperfect.

## 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

All reception children:

Reading	Writing (letter formation sheets sent separately via Parent Mail)	Words to read
<u>v</u> <u>y</u> <u>w</u> <u>z</u> <u>x</u>	<u>v</u> <u>y</u> <u>w</u> <u>z</u> <u>x</u>	<u>v</u> <u>y</u> <u>w</u> <u>z</u> <u>x</u>

Miss Beamond's purple group: [air](#) [ir](#) [ou](#)

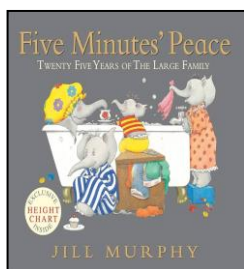
Miss Guest's purple group: [ir](#) [ou](#) [oy](#)

Mrs Maguire's pink group: [air](#) [oo \(zoo\)](#) [oo \(look\)](#) [ow](#)

Mrs Shephard's orange group: [o-e](#) [ew](#) [ure](#)

Mrs Vale and Mrs Trappett's yellow group: [aw](#) [are](#) [ur](#)

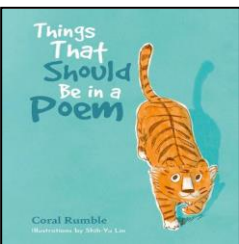
## Staff book recommendations



For KS1, Mrs Shephard recommends... *Five Minutes Peace* by Jill Murphy

This is the story of Mrs Large the elephant - who just needs five minutes of peace and quiet away from her boisterous children! So, taking refuge in the bathroom, she fills herself a hot, foamy bubble bath and takes in a tray of her favourite breakfast and the morning paper. But there's never a dull moment with the Larges, and it soon becomes clear that mum's quiet time is to be very short-lived!

[Click to purchase](#)



For KS2, Mrs Noble-Barton recommends... *Things That Should be in a Poem* by Coral Rumble

'Did you know, you can bump into a poem anywhere? You find them in houses, fields, oceans, cities, trees...the list is endless! I've even found poems in people's faces, when they laugh or cry, or get excited. Of course, you have to write the poems you find, because poems can't hold a pen or type on a keyboard. This book is full of poems I found when I was looking out for them. I had to dig some out of my imagination - ouch! You'll discover in the

pages some things that I think should be in a poem, but I'm sure you can think of more. Go hunting!' [Click to purchase](#)

## Dates for the diary

24/10/23	Families, individual and sibling photos being taken - AM
24/10/23	Parents' Evening 3.45pm - 6.15pm
25/10/23	Parents' Evening 4.30pm - 7pm
27/10/23	INSET day - school closed to pupils
<b>HALF TERM W.B 30/10/23</b>	
6/11/23	INSET day - school closed to pupils
23/11/23	Year 5 theatre trip
5/12/23	KS1 theatre trip
23/2/24	Young Voices concert
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
<b>CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS W.B 25/12/23 &amp; 1/1/24</b>	
8/1/24	Start of Spring Term - pupils back in school

**PFA events**

26/10/23	Cake Sale straight after school
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 weekend,

Mr Porter  
Executive Principal

Mrs Noble-Barton  
Head of School

Miss Smith  
Assistant Head



**St. John Paul II Multi Academy**

Registered Office: c/o Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School, Earlsbury Gardens, Birmingham, B20 3AE

E: enquiry@sjp2.net | T: 0121 354 6270 | W: johnpaulii.co.uk

Catholic Senior Executive Leader (CSEL): Mr M Emery

Company House Registered No. 08706247

