



## St. Nicholas Catholic Primary School

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Executive Principal: Mr N Porter

*Love, live and learn with Jesus Christ.*

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Dear Parents & Carers,

Friday 13<sup>th</sup> October 2023

### **October is the month of the Holy Rosary**

Today all pupils in our school experienced a prayer service based on the prayers of the rosary. KS2 had a 'living rosary' where they became the rosary beads!

Why not make the rosary a part of your prayer life during this month of October?

### **Harvest Collection**

Please find attached to this email another reminder of the items that Bethany Food Bank are in desperate need of. Our collection has started slowly...let's try to gain momentum now! Thank you in advance.

### **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 Cora (Y5), Olivia (Y3), Leo (Y3), Carter (Y2), Finley (Y2), Rowan (Y1), Kieran (Y1), Nadine (Y1), Francis (Y3), Lizzie (Y3), Jessica (Y3), Joanne (Y3), Liam (Y5), Tobenna (Y5) & Emily (Y3).

### **Wednesday Word**

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

[Invitation](#)

### **Parents' Evenings**

A reminder that Tuesday 24/10 and Wednesday 25/10 are parents' evenings. These dates have been advertised for several weeks. Appointments will go live on Monday 16/10 - you will be notified by the school office. Please note that, unless otherwise arranged with the school, this is **one appointment per pupil** to be taken on 24/10 or 25/10.

### **Do you know anyone who is interested in a career in teaching?**

St John Paul II Multi Academy are pleased to announce that we are lead partners working alongside Bishop Challoner Teaching School Alliance, this gives us an amazing opportunity to offer School Centred Initial Teacher Training. We can offer trainees strong, professional learning communities with recent inspections verifying the high quality of education provided for our students. Our staff have opportunities for ongoing personal and professional development, supported by a clear commitment to staff well-being. This means that trainees are supported by a network of experienced, enthusiastic mentors and role models across the multi academy who are able to model excellent practice.

If you are interested in this amazing opportunity: <https://www.gov.uk/apply-for-teacher-training>

### **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.**

## 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 9.10.23
Reception	95.83%
Year 1	97.5%
Year 2	99.17%
Year 3	94.58% BELOW 95%
Year 4	98.75%
Year 5	96.67%
Year 6	93.75% BELOW 95%

Well done to this week's winners...Year 2! You can negotiate a small reward with Mrs Burton & Miss Smith.

\*We seem to be entering winter bug season! Please remember this guidance: Is my [child too ill for school? - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](#) which can be useful if deciding whether or not your child is too unwell for school.

## 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.

## Social Media & school events

Just a reminder, particularly for our new parents, that photographs of children taken at school events **must not be posted on social media**. Many schools have banned photography at events such as assemblies & nativities; we don't want to take this action as we still feel that we can trust our parents to take images of their own children and only share them within their own family. Please respect this or we will be forced to reconsider our decision.

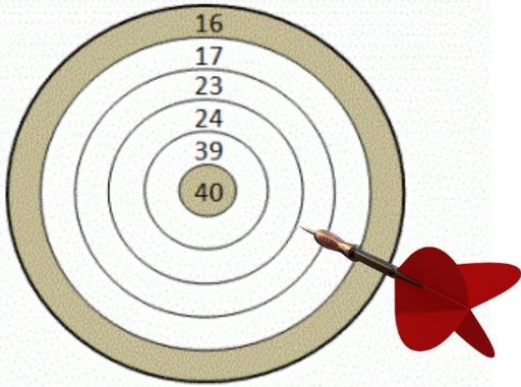
## Weekly Maths challenge - 2 merit marks per correct answer!

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!

Email your answers to

To score exactly '100', how many darts must be used?

Numbers/Rings may be used more than once.



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.

Some of our Year 5 pupils have been working hard to use the word of the month in their writing and achieved a merit mark. Well done!

Bianca wrote: *"Oh, this is exquisite."* shouted Layla.

Molly wrote: *Ada ran up to her exquisite bedroom and locked the doors.*

Niamh wrote: *Ada turned on her heel and marched to her own, exquisite room.*

Liam wrote: *The exquisite dance performance was breathtaking.*

## 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:

Sounds	Handwriting (practice sheets sent via Parent Mail)	Blending words
<a href="#">f</a> <a href="#">e</a> <a href="#">l</a> <a href="#">h</a> <a href="#">r</a>	<a href="#">f</a> <a href="#">e</a> <a href="#">l</a> <a href="#">h</a> <a href="#">r</a>	<a href="#">f</a> <a href="#">e</a> <a href="#">l</a> <a href="#">h</a> <a href="#">r</a>

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

Mrs Burling-Finn and Miss Beamond's purple group: [or](#) [ar](#)

Mrs Maguire's pink group: [ee](#) [igh](#) [oy](#) [ay](#) [ow](#)

Mrs Shephard's orange group: [tion](#) [tious/cious](#) [aw](#) [are](#)

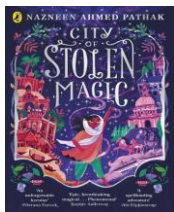
Mrs Vale and Mrs Trappett's yellow group: [a-e](#) [i-e](#) [o-e](#)

### Staff book recommendations

For KS1, Mrs Vale recommends... *Lost and Found* by Oliver Jeffers



There once was a boy and one day a penguin arrives on his doorstep. The boy decides the penguin must be lost and tries to return him. But no one seems to be missing a penguin. So the boy decides to take the penguin home himself, and they set out in his row boat on a journey to the South Pole. But when they get there, the boy discovers that maybe home wasn't what the penguin was looking for after all. [Click to purchase](#)



For KS2, Miss Smith recommends... *The City of Stolen Magic* by Nazneen Pathak

India, 1855. The British rule, and all across the country, Indian magic is being stamped out. More terrifying still, people born with magic are being snatched from their homes. Rumour is that they are being taken across the sea - to England - by the all-powerful, sinister Company. When Chompa's home is attacked and her mother viciously kidnapped, Chompa - born with powerful and dangerous magic that she has always been forbidden from using - must travel to the smoky, bustling streets of East London in search of her. But Chompa will discover far more treachery in London than she had bargained for - and will learn that every act of her rare magic comes with a price... [Click to purchase](#)

### Scholastic Book fair

The Scholastic book fair will be at school from Monday to Friday next week (16/10-20/10) from 3:30-4pm. There will be a huge variety of books to choose from and each purchase that is made will go towards the purchase of new books for school. **Please note that we are only accepting payments via card or correct cash - we don't have the facility to provide change.**

[Click here to browse the book selection available](#)

### 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

### PFA events

13/10/23	New Starters' Disco 5.30pm-7.30pm
26/10/23	Cake Sale straight after school

25/11/23  
20/12/23  
5/7/24

Christmas Fair from 2pm-4pm  
Christmas Disco from 3.30pm-5pm  
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**

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