



Together with Christ we
love, live & learn.

St. Nicholas Catholic Primary School

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Executive Principal: Mr N Porter

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Dear Parents & Carers,

Friday 21st March 2025

Pilgrims of Hope - Jubilee Journey through Lent

This week's *Lenten Symbol of the Week* is the words of Jesus during His Passion and Crucifixion. Among them, He cried out:

"My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?" (Matthew 27:46)

In His suffering, Jesus felt deep pain and abandonment, just as we sometimes do in our own struggles. But even in that moment, the Father had not truly left Him—just as He never leaves us. When we face hardships and feel alone, God is actually closer than ever, holding us in His love.

During this Lenten week, let us remember: even in our darkest times, we are never forsaken. God is with us always.



Footsteps in the Sand

One night I dreamed a dream.

As I was walking along the beach with my Lord,
Across the dark sky flashed scenes from my life.

For each scene, I noticed two sets of footprints in the sand,
One belonging to me and one to my Lord.

After the last scene of my life flashed before me,
I looked back at the footprints in the sand.

I noticed that at many times along the path of my life,
especially at the very lowest and
saddest times,

there was only one set of footprints.

This really troubled me, so I asked the Lord about it.

"Lord, You said once I decided to follow You,

You'd walk with me all the way.

But I have noticed that during the most troublesome times in my life,
there is only one set of footprints.

I don't understand why, when I needed You the most, You would leave me."

The Lord replied,

"My precious child, I love you and will never leave you.

**During your times of trial and suffering, when you see only one set of footprints,
it was then that I carried you."**



Wednesday Word

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

[Click HERE for the Wednesday Word](#)

Catholic School Inspection of St Nicholas Catholic Primary School - 19th and 20th March

This week, we welcomed two inspectors from the Catholic Schools Inspectorate to conduct a thorough and detailed inspection on behalf of the Catholic Church. The inspectors focused on three key areas: Catholic Life & Mission, Religious Education, and Collective Worship.

While the final grading of the school remains confidential until the report has been fully quality assured, we are thrilled to share that the inspectors were impressed by the excellent provision for our pupils, the hard work and dedication of our staff, the support of parents and governors, and, most importantly, how eloquent our pupils are about their faith and vocation.

Once the report is finalised, we will share it with you and upload it to our website.

Thank you for your continued support this week, and for completing the parental survey, which clearly demonstrated how strong the relationship is between the school and our families.



Stay and Pray - Friday 28th March 2025

Parents, carers, and grandparents of Year 4 pupils are invited to the *Stay and Pray* session this Friday (28th) morning. Please drop your child off as normal and come in through the front door.

What a great chance to connect spiritually and enjoy time together!



DONATE THIS WEEK PLEASE

Lenten Fundraiser for Father Hudson's Caritas - Your donations needed

As part of our Lenten fundraiser, we will be supporting **Father Hudson's Caritas**, a charity dedicated to helping vulnerable people in our communities. Father Hudson's Caritas provides vital support to those in need, including the homeless, refugees, older people, and families facing hardship. Our KS2 pupils will be putting together small

care packages for homeless people and asylum seekers. To support this effort, we kindly ask for donations of the following items for the duration of this coming week:

- **Toiletries** - travel-size shampoo, conditioner, toothpaste, toothbrushes, soap, deodorant, and wet wipes
- **Socks** - new pairs of adult socks
- **Snacks** - granola bars, trail mix, dried fruit, and crackers
- **Drinks** - bottled water or juice boxes
- **Warmth items** - lightweight gloves, hats, and scarves
- **Other essentials** - tissues, lip balm, and hand sanitiser

All donations will be greatly appreciated and will help provide comfort and support to those in need. Thank you for your generosity and kindness during this Lenten season.

We are also looking for donations of shoe boxes or shoe box-sized containers with lids to create the care packages. If you have any, please drop them off at the school office.

If you have a business or know of a business that could donate these, please email Mrs. Noble-Barton with the contact details. Thanks in advance!



KS2 Passion Play

Our KS2 pupils are working really hard rehearsing for their Passion Play, a reenactment of the events of Jesus' Passion and death. There will be two parental performances:

- **Monday 31st March at 2:00 pm**
- **Tuesday 1st April at 9:15 am**

Tickets are not required, but please note that we are limited to 3 adults per child across both performances. Thank you for your understanding and support.

PFA events



Mother's Day Tea - Final Tickets Available!

Tickets will be available until Monday 24/3.

Join us on **Thursday, 27th March** from **3:30 pm to 5:00 pm** for a lovely afternoon celebrating all the wonderful mothers and mother figures in our community.

[Follow this link to purchase tickets for the Mothers' Day Tea](#) - Hurry, spaces are limited!

We look forward to celebrating this special day with you!

Time for the Spring Lotto!

Tickets are now available online for our Spring Lotto, and there will be another opportunity to buy tickets at a school assembly (Friday 21/3) before the draw on **4th April**.

50/50 Cash Prize Breakdown:

- ☐ **£500**
- ☐ **£250**
- ☐ **£100**

Tickets are also available online via the link below:

[Spring Lotto Ticket Purchase](#)

Please share this with family and friends! We are incredibly grateful for your support in raising funds for the school.

Good luck to everyone, and thank you for being part of this exciting event! ☐☐☐

The PFA Lottery Team ☐

Parents' Evening

Spring term parents' evenings will be held on Tuesday 8th April and Wednesday 9th April. Appointments will go live through ParentMail on Monday 31st March at 7:00 pm.

Please note that Year 3 parents are welcome to drop by at any time on either of the two days to look at their child's books.

****THIS WEEK** My Mind Matters Parent Workshop**

Date: Wednesday, 26th March

Time: 9:15 AM to 10:45 AM

Location: School Hall

Hosted by: Our Place

Objective:

This workshop aims to empower parents with the knowledge and tools necessary to support their children in developing positive mental health and wellbeing. Recognising that mental health is a dynamic aspect of life, the session will focus on providing resources and strategies that parents can share with their children to foster resilience.

Key Takeaways:

- **Understanding Mental Health:** Learn how mental health evolves as children grow and navigate life's challenges.
- **Strategies for Parents:** Acquire practical tips and resources to help children build positive mental health and resilience.
- **Community Support:** Connect with other parents in a supportive environment to share experiences and advice.

All are welcome to attend this informative and interactive session.

Year 6 Vocations Week

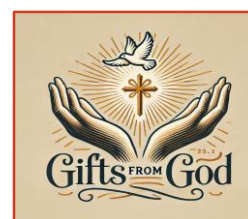
As part of our forthcoming Vocations Week in Year 6, we would like to invite you to share your career journey, experiences, and insights with our students. This is a wonderful opportunity to highlight how each of us is called to use our God-given gifts and talents in our work and daily lives as well 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.

Gifts from God assemblies - future dates

During Spring 2, our school will host 'Gifts from God' celebration assemblies on the following dates:

- 4th April

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



Easter Holiday camps at Bishop Walsh School

Please see below the link to book an Easter Holiday camp at BWS. This is provided by Microsports, not St Nicholas.

<https://www.microsportsltd.co.uk/bishop-walsh>

Attendance

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

| Year group | Attendance for w/c 17th March |
|------------|-------------------------------|
| EYFS | 98.64% |
| Year 1 | 95.86% |

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| Year 2 | 98.67% |
| Year 3 | 99.03% |
| Year 4 | 98.71% |
| Year 5 | 99.33% Winners! |
| Year 6 | 97.33% |
| Well done to this week's winners...Year 5! You can negotiate your reward with Mrs Burling-Finn 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

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|---|---|
| W/c 24th March | Collection week for Father Hudson's Caritas |
| Tuesday 25th March | Y3 & 4 Pyjama Stories - 5pm |
| Wednesday 26th March | **All parents & carers invited** 'My Mind Matters' workshop - how to help your child stay mentally healthy. School hall - 9.15am to 10.45am |
| Thursday 27th March | PFA Mothers' Day Tea - 3.30pm to 5pm |
| Friday 28th March | Year 4 'Stay and Pray' - 9am |
| Monday 31st March | 2pm - KS2 Passion Play performance to parents |
| Tuesday 1st April | 9.15am - KS2 Passion Play performance to parents |
| Wednesday 2nd April to Friday 4th April | Year 5 residential to Alton Castle |
| Friday 4th April | Year 1 'Stay and Pray' - 9am |
| Tuesday 8th and Wednesday 9th April | Parents' Evenings (Y3 book look) |
| Thursday 10th April | Year 2 trip to Twycross Zoo |
| Friday 11th April | Year 3 'Stay and Pray' - 9am |
| Friday 11th April | Last day of Spring Term. School breaks up |

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|---|---|
| | for Easter. |
| Easter Holidays School closed weeks commencing 14th April and 21st April 2025 All pupils back in school on Monday 28th April | |
| Monday 5th May | 'May Day' bank holiday - school closed |
| Thursday 8th May | Y1 trip to Botanical Gardens |
| 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 |
| Friday 23rd May | Last day of Summer 1 - break up for half term |
| May half term School closed during week commencing 26th May 2025 | |
| Monday 2nd June | INSET Day - school closed to pupils |
| 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 | Year 6 swimming week at Wyndley each afternoon |
| 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. |
| Wednesday 2nd July | Transition Day - Year 6 to their new secondary schools |
| Friday 4th July | INSET day - all MAC schools closed to pupils |

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| Monday 7th July | Sports' Day at Braemar Fields (a reserve date of 14/7 has been booked in case of inclement weather on 7th) |
| Saturday 12th July | Y6 Leavers' Mass in church at 6pm |
| Wednesday 16th July | 9.10am - Year 6 Leavers' Assembly |
| Friday 18th July | 9.15am - Whole School end of year Mass in church |
| Friday 18th July | End of academic year 2024-25 for pupils |

Mr Porter

Executive Principal

Mrs Noble-Barton

Head of School

Miss Smith

Assistant Head

St. John Paul II Multi Academy

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