



6<sup>th</sup> January 2023

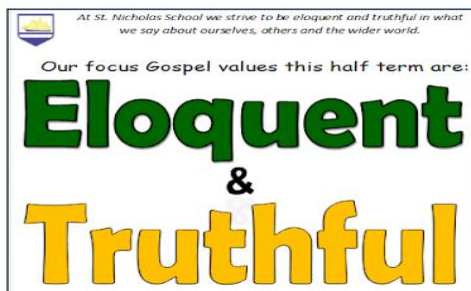
Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back to the Spring Term! We all hope that you had a wonderful Christmas and a peaceful new year. The children have settled well into their new term and we look forward to a happy and successful term.

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

[Click here for the Wednesday Word](#)

### **Gospel Virtues**



This half term we focus on being eloquent. Using our words wisely and for positive impact. If we are eloquent then we will also be truthful. Jesus taught us to tell the truth even when it is hard to hear or when it might get us into trouble.

The 'Eloquent & Truthful' wristbands are on order and will be delivered soon. Mrs Noble-Barton already has a list of names!

### **January's word of the month**

A new year brings a new month and a new word to support our growing vocabulary at St Nicholas. January's word is **arduous**. We look forward to seeing the children use this word to up-level their writing.

### **Parents' Evening Dates - Spring Term**

Some advance notice for your diary, Spring Term Parents' Evenings will be held on the following dates:

Tuesday 28/3 Parents' Evening: first appointment at 3.45pm / last appt. at 6.15pm

Wednesday 29/3 Parents' Evenings: first appointment at 4.30pm / last appt. at 7pm

Appointments will go live closer to the time.

### **KS2 Passion Play**

Keep those diaries out! Years 3-6 will be performing their take on the passion and death of Our Lord on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> April, both performances start at 9.15am. These performances will be by ticket only. Tickets will be released closer to the time.

### **Class Newsletters**

Spring Term class newsletters will be sent out at the end of next week. These will contain information about the curriculum in your child's year group and will advise you on how to support your child at home.

### **RWI Books**

As phonics sessions begin in earnest next week, please ensure that you keep safe the RWI books that your child brings home. These are expensive resources and the scheme cannot be taught without them. Thank you for your support.

### **Year 2 and Year 6 SATs Workshops**

Parentmail messages went out this week to parents of pupils in Y2 and Y6 advertising workshops taking place on Tuesday 17/1 (Y2) and Thursday 19/1 (Y6). Please do try to ensure that each child has an adult attending.

### 'Young Voices' concert

Our Young Voices choir will be attending the concert at Resorts World on Tuesday. We look forward to hearing about this event and seeing the photos! Parents of those children involved have received a Parentmail with final logistical arrangements. Thank you to Miss Gamlen and Miss Smith for organising this alongside their usual workload.

### Mrs Griffiths

Mrs Griffiths (Rec Mon-Weds) will be away from school for a period of time as she undertakes jury duty. We wish her well and hope that she is back soon. Parents of pupils in Reception can rest assured that the class will continue to be taught well by Miss Beamond, Mrs Vale & a supply teacher who we have worked with before called Mrs Howley.

### Dogs

Many of us do love dogs at St Nicholas (in fact, Dogs' Trust Charity are visiting us on Wednesday 11th January to do workshops and assemblies) however, it is important that all adults adhere to the previous requests to **keep dogs off the school site**. Some children find dogs intimidating and it is not fair to ask these children to walk past dogs on the way into and out of school. If you do wish to bring your dog on the morning school run, please wait at the gated area and wave your children goodbye. Thank you for your support.

### Phonics - home video links

There are no links this week as pupils have been recapping sounds rather than learning new sounds. Phonics links will begin again in next week's newsletter.

### Staff Book Recommendations

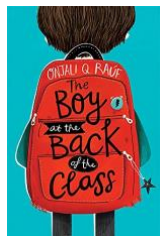


For KS1, Mrs Shephard recommends 'Ruby's Worry' by Tom Percival

Ruby loves being Ruby. Until, one day, she finds a worry.

At first it's not such a big worry, and that's all right, but then it starts to grow. It gets bigger and bigger every day and it makes Ruby sad. How can Ruby get rid of it and feel like herself again?

[Click to purchase](#)



For KS2, Miss Gamlen recommends 'The Boy at the Back of the Class' by Onjali Q. Rauf

When a new boy joins their class, a group of children try to befriend him. They soon learn that Ahmet is a refugee and has been separated from his family. None of the grown-ups seem to be able to help him, so the friends come up with a daring plan, embarking on an extraordinary adventure.

[Click to purchase](#)

### Dates for your diary

Tuesday 10/1	'Young Voices' concert at Resorts World Arena 7pm
Friday 17/2	INSET Day - school closed to pupils
w/c 20/2	Half Term - school closed to pupils
Weds 22/2	Ash Wednesday - the beginning of Lent
Monday 27/2	Second half of Spring Term begins for pupils
Wednesday 15/3	Year 6 Confirmation Exhibition
Tuesday 28/3	Parents' Evening: first appointment at 3.45pm / last appt. at 6.15pm
Wednesday 29/3	Parents' Evenings: first appointment at 4.30pm / last appt. at 7pm
Tuesday 4/4	KS2 Passion Play performance 9.15am
Wednesday 5/4	KS2 Passion Play performance 9.15am

God bless,  
Mrs Noble-Barton  
Head of School

Mr Porter  
Executive Principal

