



Dear Parents/Carers,

### 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 CJ (Y6), Beaumont (Y3), Emily (Y3), Chiara (Y2), Malachy (Y2), Martha (Y5) & Lewis M (Y5).

### Sacramental 'enrolment' Mass

Children in Year 3 and those in Year 6 are invited to attend any Mass at St Nicholas Church this weekend to 'enrol' for their sacramental journey.

### Message from Father Allen - Ready to Serve?

Meetings for youngsters to introduce them to the ministries at St Nicholas church.

A few dates for the diary:

- Meeting for servers-to-be: After 6pm Mass on Saturday 23rd September OR after 9am Mass on 24th September. **Open to children in Year 3 and older.**
- Meeting for readers-to-be: After 6pm Mass on Saturday 30th September OR after 9am Mass on 1st October. **Open to children in Year 5 and older.**

### Reception coffee morning - thank you

It was lovely to see such a great turnout for this morning's event held to enable parents of pupils in Reception class to meet and mingle. Thank you to the wonderful PFA volunteers who gave their time to make this happen.

### This week's attendance

During one day this week we achieved 100% attendance across the school. Well done everybody!

Year group	% attendance for w/c 18.9.23
Reception	99.58%
Year 1	97.84%
Year 2	100%
Year 3	98.75%
Year 4	98.75%
Year 5	100%
Year 6	98.33%

Well done to Year 2 & Year 5 who can negotiate a treat from their teacher such as 10 mins IPAD time or 10 mins extra play time!

### **SENDCO drop in coffee mornings**

Our SENDCO, Mrs Burling-Finn, is going to be running a 'drop in' coffee morning on alternate Wednesdays starting from Wednesday 27th September. Whether or not your child has a SEND Pupil Profile or any diagnosis of additional need, you can drop in to see Mrs Burling-Finn, ask any questions you have about provision for SEND in our school and enjoy a cuppa! There is no need to book attendance just show up at any time between 9am and 10am on any of the following dates:

Wednesday 27/9

Weds 11/10

Weds 25/10

Weds 8/11 etc.

### **Phonics information evening - Thursday 28th September at 6pm (in the school hall) - PLEASE NOTE THE CORRECTED TIME OF 6PM**

Parents of children in Reception and Year 1 are invited to attend a phonics information evening where our Assistant Head, Miss Smith, will guide you through our approach to teaching and learning phonics. This will be a really valuable opportunity to get to grips with your child's early reading journey.

### **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

### **Cake sale for Sepsis UK - Tuesday 26/9**

Aoife & Molly in Y5 will be running a cake sale for the whole school during morning break on Tuesday 26/9 to raise money for Sepsis UK, a charity close to their hearts. If pupils wish to buy a cake, they should bring 50p or £1 on Tuesday.

### **PFA News**

The PFA meeting on 21/9 was very well attended; it was lovely to see so many of our parents, both online and in person, who want to help towards re-energising the PFA. The dates of some events were put in the diary:

- New Starters' Disco (open to whole school, parents also attend) 5.30pm-7.30pm on Friday 13th October
- Cake Sale straight after school on Thursday 26th October
- Christmas Fair from 2pm-4pm on Saturday 25th November
- Christmas Disco (to coincide with our Christmas jumper day) 3.30pm-5pm on Wednesday 20th December
- Summer Festival from 4pm-6pm on Friday 5th July

Other events will be scheduled soon. Another point for discussion was the desire to let parents/friends know what school wishes to buy with PFA monies. Two major projects were discussed which are the purchasing of new IPADS & the building of more spacious and suitable PE equipment storage. Mrs Noble-Barton & Mrs Hale are working together on an application for charitable funding for the IPADS with potentially a nominal donation from the PFA. In future communications we will aim to give you more information about where the money goes.

Thank you to Mrs Sarah Hale who chairs the PFA and to all parents willing to volunteer & support the PFA in any way.

## Google classroom homework

Apologies to any parents who have had difficulties accessing Google classroom - thank you for your patience & perseverance whilst we have addressed these issues. Thank you.

## Word of the month

# gregarious

**Definition:** a person who is sociable, talkative and fond of company

*Despite being a quiet child, the boy emerged as gregarious and confident when he attended school with a wide friendship group and a sociable nature – his friends admired him greatly!*

### **Synonyms:**

Companionable,  
sociable, amicable,  
friendly, outgoing,  
affable



### **Antonyms:**

Unsociable, reserved,  
introverted, unfriendly

## 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: See separate document sent out via parent mail.

Miss Guest's purple group: [ee](#) [igh](#) [ow](#)

Mrs Maguire's pink group: [ow](#) [oo](#)

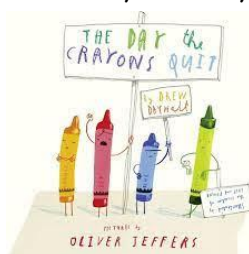
Mrs Shephard's orange group: [i-e](#) [o-e](#) [u-e](#)

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

## Staff book recommendations

For KS1, Mrs Bowen recommends...

*The Day the Crayons Quit* by Drew Daywalt



Poor Duncan just wants to colour in. But when he opens his box of crayons, he only finds letters, all saying the same thing: We quit! Beige is tired of playing second fiddle to Brown, Blue needs a break from colouring in all that water, while Pink just wants to be used. Green has no complaints, but Orange and Yellow are no longer speaking to each other. The battle lines have been drawn. What is Duncan to do?

[Click to purchase](#)

For KS2, Mrs Minchin recommends... *Running on Empty* by S.E. Durrant



AJ's grandfather has always been the one to keep his unusual family together, so when he dies things start to unravel at the edges. AJ is worried about his parents but they don't really seem to notice. In order to deal with his grief and to keep his anxiety at bay, AJ does what he and his grandfather did best: running. Round and round the Olympic Park, aiming for the cross country trials, running to escape, AJ only seems to be heading ever closer to disaster.

[Click to purchase](#)

### Dates for the diary

27/9/23	9am-10am SENDCO drop in coffee morning
28/9/23	Phonics information evening
29/9/23	Macmillan Coffee Morning - parents invited
6/10/23	Whole school Harvest Mass in church at 9.15am
6/10/23	CAFOD Family Fast Day
6/10/23	Nasal flu vaccines for those who have consented
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	Christmas Fair from 2pm-4pm
20/12/23	Christmas Disco from 3.30pm-5pm
5/7/24	Summer Festival from 4pm-6pm

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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