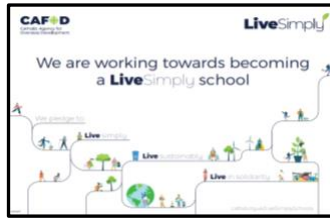




*Love, live and learn  
with Jesus Christ.*



**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

Dear Parents & Carers,

Friday 19<sup>th</sup> January 2024

### Gospel Virtues

This half term we are focused on living out the Gospel Virtues of *COMPASSIONATE* and *LOVING*. Pupils are growing to be *compassionate* towards others, near and far, especially the less fortunate; and *loving* by their just actions and forgiving words.

The following pupils have been spotted by staff members this week living out our focus virtues and have received a Gospel Virtues wristband from Mrs Noble-Barton: Ted H (EYFS), Megan (EYFS), Luca (Y1), Carter (Y1), Elsie (Y5), Tommy (Rec) & Theo (Rec).

### Wednesday Word

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

[Click HERE for the Wednesday Word](#)

### Cake Sale

Huge well done to our Y3 pupils who ran a cake sale last Friday. They raised £59.65 which they would like to donate to Birmingham Hospice.

### KS2 Passion Play

KS2 will be delivering their interpretation of the events of Holy Week on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> March at 9:10am in the school hall. For health and safety regulations, each family has been allocated 2 tickets and admission is by ticket only. Please see ParentMail for further details.

### Phonics Screening Check letter from minister

This week we received a letter from Damian Hinds, Minister for Schools which congratulated us on our very high Phonics Screening Check results last year.

*"With 97% of pupils at St Nicholas Catholic Primary School meeting the expected standard in the check, your school is in the top 3% of all primary schools in the country"*

Huge congratulations to all involved in this, not least the children! If you want to read the whole letter, you can find it here: <https://twitter.com/StNicholasCP/status/1747598611397931193>

### Curriculum Workshops

So far this academic year we have had successful Curriculum Workshops for Year 6, EYFS, Year 2 & Year 1. Dates of forthcoming workshops have been sent out but please find below a reminder:

- **Year 3 Monday 22/1 at 9am**
- **Year 4 Tuesday 30/1 at 9am**
- **Year 5 Tuesday 6/2 at 9am**

Please try to attend so that you can work with your child. If work commitments mean that you can't attend, why not send a Grandparent instead.

### Parents' Evenings

A date for your diary. Spring Term Parents' Evenings will be held in school on **Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> March and Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> March.**

Tuesday 26/3, first appointment will be at 3.45pm with the final appointment at 6.15pm.

Wednesday 27/3, first appointment will be at 4.30pm with the final appointment at 7pm.

As you can see, our staff are offering later appointments to help with those parents who have working commitments. If you don't need the late appointments, please leave them for those parents who do need them.

Other than in exceptional circumstances, appointments with class teachers outside of these times will not be offered.

### **EYFS & Year 6 Height & Weight Checks**

The school nurse will be running the height and weight checks for Reception class and Year 6 on Wednesday 24th January, a form has been sent to you via Parentmail. Please only call the school office if you are opting out meaning you **do not** want your child to participate in the measurement programme.

### **Year 5 & 6 PCSO talk**

On Thursday 25th January we will welcome PCSO Zoe Bishop into school to lead an information session with our Year 5 and 6 pupils. PCSO Bishop will be talking about:

- Staying safe when out and about. This is in light of the recent spate of robberies targeting children and teenagers.
- Staying safe on social media

PCSO Bishop is not going to be scaring the children, merely empowering them to keep themselves safe.

### **This week's attendance**

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

Year group	% attendance for w/c 15.1.24	
Reception	97.08%	
Year 1	96.67%	
Year 2	93.75%	BELOW 95%
Year 3	94.17%	BELOW 95%
Year 4	97.08%	
Year 5	96.25%	
Year 6	95.42%	

Well done to the joint winners this week, EYFS and Year 4! You can negotiate your reward with Mrs Bowen and Miss Godfrey.

### **Lighthouse Preschool**

Places are still available for pre school children. If you are interested, please contact Carole Baird on 07590411118.

### **PFA News - MEETING ON MONDAY**

A reminder that the next PFA meeting will be held on Monday 22nd January at 5pm in the school hall. Any parent is welcome to attend, regardless of previous involvement with the PFA.

Our PFA Chair, Mrs Sarah Hale, is undertaking a 100km charity trek in June to raise money for a cancer charity. What an incredibly brave thing to agree to! If you would like to support Mrs Hale in her fundraising you can visit her Just Giving page here:

[https://www.justgiving.com/page/sarah-hale-1705005853499?utm\\_medium=fundraising&utm\\_content=page%2Fsarah-hale-1705005853499&utm\\_source=copyLink&utm\\_campaign=pfp-share](https://www.justgiving.com/page/sarah-hale-1705005853499?utm_medium=fundraising&utm_content=page%2Fsarah-hale-1705005853499&utm_source=copyLink&utm_campaign=pfp-share)

### Maths challenge

Thank You to everybody who has been taking part in the challenge - it's great to see maths being enjoyed by the whole family! If you would like to take part, please email Miss Smith at [mathschallenge@stnicholassutton.org.uk](mailto:mathschallenge@stnicholassutton.org.uk) and earn two merit marks!

### Making Footprints Challenge

Small has size 2 shoes.

Medium has size 3 shoes.  
They are one and a half times the length of Small's shoes.

Large has size 5 shoes.



A small shoe and a medium shoe are the same length as a large shoe.

They start with the heels of their shoes on the same line.

They each walk heel to toe.

When will all three heels be in line again?

### Word of the month

Please discuss this word at home with your child and encourage them to use it in their writing at school!

# optimistic

Definition: hopeful and confident about the future.

*After years of dedication, hard work and perseverance, the young ballet dancer skipped onto the stage to a rapturous applause. She was optimistic that she would be chosen for the prestigious role.*

Synonyms:

Cheerful, positive,  
bright, upbeat,  
encouraging,  
reassuring, buoyant



Antonyms:

Negative, gloomy,  
ominous, downcast,  
miserable.

### Young Voices

**Your Young Voices tickets have been sent via Parent Mail.**

If your child is part of the Young Voices choir, please use this link to access the music room. Here, you will find backing tracks, lyric videos and the song sheets.

[Young Voices music room](#)

### Years 5 & 6 Campfire stories - Thursday 29th February 2024

On Thursday 29th February, pupils in Years 5 & 6 are invited back into school at 4:45pm to share stories and toast marshmallows around the campfire. Pupils may wear pyjamas and bring a blanket but, as we are outside, these will need to be warm. Students can bring their favourite text to read and share with their friends. If you would like your child to attend, please respond to the form via Parent Mail. We look forward to seeing you there!

## World Book Day - Thursday 7th March 2024

We will be celebrating World Book Day this year on Thursday 7th March. Children are invited to dress up as their favourite book character or bring in a prop from their favourite book. They will take part in a variety of activities across the day including a live BBC lesson, creating a bookmark and sharing stories with their friends from different classes.

### Amazon wish list (updated)

*'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](#)

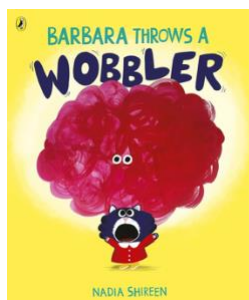
[Year 5](#)

[Year 6](#)

### Phonics home links

Group	Reading	Writing/spelling	Words to read
Mrs Bowen's lilac group	<a href="#">j v y w k</a>	<a href="#">j v y w k</a> <a href="#">Word time 1.3 spelling</a>	<a href="#">j v y w k</a> <a href="#">Word time 1.3 reading</a>
Mrs Connor's red group	<a href="#">sh th ch qu</a>	<a href="#">Word time 1.6 spelling</a>	<a href="#">sh th ch qu</a> <a href="#">Red words</a> <a href="#">Word time 1.6 reading</a>
Mrs Maguire's pink group Next week, the pink group will be learning set 3 sounds.	<a href="#">ow oo oo ar or air</a>	<a href="#">oo (zoo) oo (look) ar or air</a>	<a href="#">Fred talk</a> <a href="#">In the sun</a> <a href="#">Red words</a>
Mrs Trappett's and Mrs Vale's orange group	<a href="#">i-e o-e u-e</a>	<a href="#">i-e o-e u-e</a>	<a href="#">Fred talk</a> <a href="#">I think I want to be a bee</a> <a href="#">Red words</a>
Mrs Shephard's yellow group	<a href="#">aw are ur ear ure</a>	<a href="#">aw are ur ear ure</a>	<a href="#">Fred talk</a> <a href="#">Off sick</a> <a href="#">Red words</a>
Miss Guest's blue group	<a href="#">oa ew ire i-e o-e u-e</a>	<a href="#">oa ew ire i-e o-e u-e</a>	<a href="#">Fred talk</a> <a href="#">Jade's party</a> <a href="#">Red words</a>

## Staff book recommendations



For KS1, Miss Godfrey recommends... *Barbara Throws a Wobbler* by Nadia Shireen

Barbara is in a very bad mood. She won't admit it, but she is. She has a problem with a sock, and at lunchtime there's a strange pea... And even though she's at the park with her friends, it all just gets a bit much. Suddenly Barbara's WOBBLER is out of control! But what if Barbara and her Wobbler can work together, so she can be cheerful again?

[Click to purchase](#)



For KS2, Miss Guest recommends... *The Accidental Prime Minister* by Tom McLaughlin

When Joe tells a local news reporter exactly what he would do if he were leader of the country, the video goes viral and Joe's speech becomes famous all over the world! Before long, people are calling for the current leader to resign and give someone else a go... and that's how an ordinary boy like Joe ended up with the most extraordinary job. Now the fun can really start... Hats for cats! Pet pigs for all! Banana shaped buses! Swimming pools on trains!

[Click to purchase](#)

## Dates for the diary

22/1/24	Year 3 Curriculum Workshop (9am - 10.30am)
30/1/24	Year 6 trip to St Chad's Cathedral
30/1/24	Year 4 Curriculum Workshop (9am - 10.30am)
W/c 5/2	RSHE week across the school
23/2/24	Young Voices concert
24/2/24	EYFS & Year 6 Height/Weight checks by school nurse
29/2/24	Campfire stories - Yrs 5 & 6
7/3/24	World Book Day
19/3/24 and 20/3/24	KS2 Holy Week Services (Passion Play) at 9:10am - <b>tickets only</b>
26th & 27th March	Parents' Evenings
15/4/24	INSET Day - school closed to children
4/7/24	INSET Day - school closed to children

## PFA events

22/1/24	PFA Meeting in the school hall at 5pm - ALL WELCOME
5/7/24	Summer Festival from 4pm-6pm

-

God bless,  
Mr Porter  
Executive Principal

Mrs Noble-Barton  
Head of School

Miss Smith  
Assistant Head