



Love, live and learn with Jesus Christ.

St. Nicholas Catholic Primary School

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Executive Principal: Mr N Porter

Friday 3rd March 2023

Dear Parents/Carers

New Gospel Virtues for this half term

During Spring 2, we are growing to be LEARNED, finding God in all things; and WISE in the way we use our learning for the good of everyone.

The following pupils have earned Learned & Wise wristbands this week: Rosie (Y3), Chiara (Y1) & Emily (Y3).

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

[Click here for the Wednesday Word](#)

CAFOD Family Fast Day

Well done to the group of Year 5 & 6 pupils who gave up their lunch today to support CAFOD Family Fast Day. This group of pupils had a very simple lunch of soup and roll and donated the money they would have spent on their lunch, to CAFOD. During the meal, we listened to prayerful music and reflected on how lucky we are to have enough to eat. We prayed to the Lord for His help and peace in areas of the world where hunger is prevalent. This event has raised £44 for CAFOD. Well done to all involved.

Notice for parents/carers of pupils in Year 6 - The Sacrament of Confirmation

Not long now until Archbishop Bernard Longley visits the parish of St Nicholas to confer the Sacrament of Confirmation. The confirmation Mass takes place on Friday 24th March at 7pm. If you wish to have any official photographs taken (individual or family), photographers will be available in the school hall from 6pm. The same photographers will also take a group photograph of all the Confirmandi on the steps of the Altar at the end of Mass. These will be available to purchase at a later date.

Reminder for Year 6 parents - Confirmation Exhibition - Wednesday 15th March

As part of our preparations for the Sacrament of Confirmation, Year 6 pupils are invited to present their chosen Saint at a 'Confirmation Exhibition' in the school hall. This can be presented as the children wish - we are looking forward to seeing lots of creativity! Children may use the computer to create their project but this must be printed out for the exhibition. Each child will have their own table from which they can present so that artefacts, artwork and any other relevant items can be displayed. From 1:45-3:00 pm, the exhibition will be open for parents and family members to attend. You don't need to have tickets or book an appointment, just come along and browse the different projects presented by the children.

Children will need to be able to articulate why they have chosen that particular Saint as their Confirmation name and how their example inspires them to live out the rest of their lives as Catholic Christians, having been enriched with the Holy Spirit during the Sacrament.

We look forward to seeing you there!

Internet Safety Workshops

Every pupil in the school has experienced an internet safety workshop this week. Delivered by an external company, these workshops were tailored to the age of each class and helped pupils develop their knowledge and confidence when staying safe online.

World Book Day dance workshops

On Friday, every class took part in a dance workshop linked to our focus English work on Charles Dickens! 'Food glorious food', 'Consider Yourself' and 'Oom-pah-pah' were just some of the songs used to teach routines to each class. Great fun!

Campfire stories - A success

On Wednesday, Year 5 & 6 pupils attend our 'Campfire stories' event. This was a great success and children thoroughly enjoyed reading stories whilst sharing hot chocolate and toasting marshmallows! Many thanks to the staff who gave up their evening to support this! It is wonderful to see our children enjoying reading for pleasure; thank you for all of your support from home!

We are really looking forward to the summer term when children in EYFS and Year 1 will be invited to a Teddy Bear's picnic to share their love of reading too.

World Book Day 2023

The theme for World Book Day this year is something we know a lot about at St Nicholas; *reading for pleasure*. We have already begun our celebrations today with some exciting dance workshops that have built upon children's learning around classic author, Charles Dickens. On Monday, our celebrations will continue as children will take part in a variety of activities during English lessons such as a 'teacher swap' where teachers read to a different class. Additionally, the Scholastic Book Fair will be open (Mon 6/3 -Fri 10/3) outside of school at 3:30pm. The £1 book token that children receive from school can now be used towards the purchase of books over £2.99 at the fair. Children are also invited to take part in our 'book in a box' competition; details of this were sent out earlier this month via parentmail.

Amazon wish list

Many thanks to all of the parents who have kindly donated books from our wish list. Your contribution to our growing love of reading at St Nicholas is greatly appreciated. For anybody who would like to purchase a book for children to enjoy, the links are as follows:

[Reception](#) [Year 1](#) [Year 2](#) [Year 3](#) [Year 4](#) [Year 5](#) [Year 6](#)

Salad Bar

As part of the lunchtime offer, Mrs Kinsella and her team in the kitchen provide a salad bar for pupils having a hot meal. Unfortunately, due to supply chain issues, Mrs Kinsella is having trouble sourcing some of the items such as cucumbers, watermelon and tomatoes. She is still managing to offer a salad bar but this may change in the future. We'll keep you updated.

March's word of the month

It is truly ***bewildering*** as to how fast this year is going! We are into March and this means a new word to add to our growing vocabulary. March's word of the month is ***treacherous***. Many thanks for all of the fantastic suggestions; those not chosen will be forwarded to April. We are looking forward to seeing this powerful adjective in your children's writing!

Phonics Sounds of the week will begin in next Friday's newsletter

Pupils have been consolidating their sound knowledge this week and will start a new book on Monday. Sounds to practice at home will be put on next week's newsletter.

Young Voices charity single

The choir participated in the Young Voices concert earlier this year and recorded a charity single with Heather Small. The song, Proud, is being released to raise money for 'Children's Mental Health Week'. Please have a look at the following video if you are interested in purchasing it.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=H4I9s-ITfo0>

IMPORTANT NOTICE - Car parking in St Nicholas Church car park

From Monday 6/3 Father Allen is putting in place new parking restrictions in the church car park which involve number plate recognition cameras and the possibility of receiving a fine. Please see below the information which Father Allen has put in his parish newsletter. For parents this should mean little change, each car gets a 60 minute 'grace period' so if you are dropping off or picking up a child you will be fine without a permit. If you will need to stay longer, for example for parents' evening, there will be a QR code located inside the school reception which you will scan. This code will direct you to a website where you will input your car registration and you will be issued with a 24 hour 'virtual permit'. There is no parking charge. If you have any questions or concerns please contact the school office.

From the parish newsletter:

Parish Car Park

The new carpark arrangements come into effect on Monday 6th March 2023.

A reminder that a single-period free parking permit is automatically issued

- On Saturdays for those arriving after 5.30pm and leaving before 7.30pm,; and on Sundays for those arriving after 8am and leaving before 2pm a free permit covering those hours is automatically issued. *This means that the vast majority of those coming by car to Sunday Mass need do nothing other than arrive and leave within the given times*
- On Mondays to Wednesdays for those arriving after 9.30am and leaving before 11.30am and on Friday for those arriving after 6.30pm and leaving before 8.30pm a free permit covering those hours is automatically issued. *This means that the vast majority of those coming by car to Weekday Mass need do nothing other than arrive and leave within the given times*

Permits will be automatically issued in this way for our Masses at other times too - eg funerals and Holy Week services. The times of eligibility for permits for these other events will be confirmed well in advance.

These automatic permits are automatically issued each time a vehicle enters drive onto the car park during the 'privileged' times. You need do nothing more.

At other times free parking is automatically permitted for ONE HOUR. So long as you arrive and leave within a period of 60 minutes you do not need to do anything more.

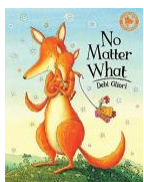
However, if you are attending an event in the church or meeting rooms that is *not* covered by the automatic permit then *when you arrive* please use a smartphone to scan the QR code which will be available where your meeting takes place, and enter your vehicle registration number. If you do not have a smartphone, meeting organisers will be asked to ensure one is available for your use.

This new system is designed to inconvenience as few parishioners as possible! And to ensure our carpark is fully available for parishioners use. *If it presents you with practical difficulties, please see Fr Allen to see what more can be done.*

Staff Book Recommendations

For KS1, Mrs Connor recommends...

No Matter What by Debi Glori



A little fox is in a big, bad mood and is worried that its mother won't love it forever. In this lyrical picture book we see a clever and resourceful mother prove to her child that a parent's love is limitless - no matter what!

[Click to purchase](#)

For KS2, Miss Smith recommends...

The Violet Veil Mysteries by Sophie Cleverly



Violet Veil wants nothing more than to prove her worth and become her father's apprentice at Veil & Sons Undertakers. And one rain-soaked night she gets her chance when she meets a boy, Oliver, who is wandering around the graveyard. Only, the last time Violet saw Oliver, he was indoors and very much dead, waiting to be buried. Violet has just found her first case, and it doesn't get bigger than this: can she, with the help of her dog, Bones, help Oliver solve his own 'murder'?

[Click to purchase](#)

Dates for your diary

Mon 6/3 to Fri 10/3	Book Fair in school
Tuesday 7/3	Y4 curriculum workshop 9am
Wednesday 15/3	Year 6 Confirmation Exhibition
Fri 24/3 @ 7pm	Sacrament of Confirmation being conferred by Archbishop Bernard Longley
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

To clarify, St Nicholas pupils' last day in school before breaking up for the Easter holidays will be Thursday 6th April as per the dates which have been long advertised on our school website. Pupils' first day back in school is Monday 24th April 2023. As ever, school term dates can be found here [Term Dates](#) / [St Nicholas \(stnicholassutton.org.uk\)](#)

Wishing you a safe & happy weekend,

Mr Porter

Executive Principal

Mrs Noble-Barton

Head of School



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