



26th May 2023

Dear Parents & Carers,



May Procession

On Tuesday we celebrated our annual May Procession. The whole school processed round the grounds singing hymns to Mary whilst some Y6 pupils held her aloft. When back in the school hall, we heard scripture readings, sang hymns and offered our floral tributes to the Queen of Heaven - you can see the sea of flowers on the picture here. All flowers were then distributed to classroom sacred spaces. What a glorious way to finish the month of May!

Gospel Virtues

The following pupils have been awarded a 'Curious and Active' wristband this week: Jonathan (Y2), Kobim, Jamie-Lee, Carter, Kieran, Orla, Mabel x2, Alex & Lily (Rec), Freddie T, Daniel, Alicja, Clodagh, Jaden (Rec), Aoife (Y4), Rupert (Y3), Connie (Y1), Aidan (Y5), Frankie Br (Y5) & Alex (Y6).

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

[Click here for the Wednesday Word](#)

End of Summer Term 1

Today we come to the end of the first half of our Summer Term. There is so much going on in school at the moment from statutory assessments to educational visits, please ensure that you read the weekly newsletter & check your Parentmail regularly as this will provide you all the information you need and prevent unnecessary phone calls to the school office.

Wishing everyone a safe and sunny half term break. We will see all pupils back in school at 8.50am on Monday 5th June.

Statutory Assessments

Well done to Years 6 and 2 who have all taken their SATs tests - results will be published with pupils' end of year reports. After half term it is the turn of Year 1 who will sit their Phonics Screening Check during w/c 12th June & Year 4 who will sit their Multiplication Check at some point during the first three weeks of Summer 2. So far, all pupils subject to statutory assessment have conducted themselves with professionalism and we are very proud of them.

EYFS/KS1 Teddy Bears picnic - Thursday 22nd June 2023

Earlier this year, children in Years 3 and 4 attended 'Stories after dark' and Years 5 and 6 attended 'Campfire stories'. To celebrate reading with our younger pupils, Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 will be taking part in a 'Teddy Bears picnic'. This will take place during school time from 1:30-3:00pm and children are invited to bring in a small picnic (bearing in mind they will have already had their lunch!), a teddy bear and a book to read and share with their friends. **As we have several children with food allergies, please only provide food for your child to eat.**

Year 3 'Going Forth' celebrations - Friday 7th July

On Friday 7th July all Y3 pupils are invited to wear their First Holy Communion clothes to attend a special 'Going Forth' Mass with their classmates and parents at 9.15am in church. Official photographers will be in the school hall from 8.30am for any family shots, all pupils will have an individual photograph and the class will have a group shot. Please note that this day is for **all** year 3 pupils regardless of where they received the sacrament. More details to follow.

Attendance

Every week we print each class' attendance in the newsletter. The class (or classes) with the highest attendance can negotiate a small reward with their class teacher such as some extra playtime or IPAD time. Let's see what attendance was like this week:

Class	Attendance for w/c 22.5.23
Reception	99.17%
Year 1	96.67%
Year 2	93.75%
Year 3	97.5%
Year 4	96.67%
Year 5	96.25%
Year 6	92.34%
Well done to the winners - Reception Class!	

**No class on 100%. We have seen an increase in the numbers of pupils having 'odd days' either side of a school holiday. Please note that holidays should be taken during school holidays & pupils should be at school until we break up and back at school on the day we come back.*

Mini Vinnies Bingo

On Monday 19th June, our 'Mini Vinnies' group will be running a 'Bingo and refreshments' session for over 60s! This is open to any grandparent of the school as well as any OAP parishioners. Details and cost can be found on the attached poster. Eyes down, look in!

Mini Vinnies Sleepout

Our busy Mini Vinnies are also promoting a 'Summer Sleep Challenge' to raise money for the St Vincent De Paul Society who do such good work with the vulnerable & lonely in society. Attached is a poster about how your child/family can get involved and a link to the Just Giving page if you would like to donate or sponsor your child. Thank you in advance.

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](#)

April's word of the month

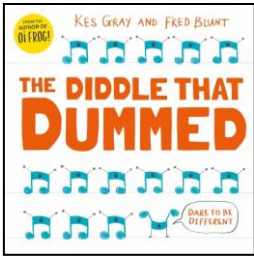
Our [word of the month is malevolent.](#)

We have already seen lots of examples of malevolent being used in children's writing - we are looking forward to seeing lots more!

Phonics home links

[Red 1](#) [Red 2](#)
[Green 1](#) [Green 2](#) [Green 3](#) 
[Purple 1](#) [Purple 2](#)
[Pink 1](#) [Pink 2](#) [Pink 3](#)
[Orange](#) [Orange 2](#) [Orange 3](#)
[Yellow 1](#) [Yellow 2](#) [Yellow 3](#) [Yellow 4](#)

Staff Book Recommendations



For KS1, Mrs Griffiths recommends...

The Diddle that Dumbled by Kes Gray

Flinty Bo Diddle is writing a tune for his fiddle. All his diddles have lined up nicely - except for one who keeps going DUM, right in the middle! No matter what he tries he just can't get this diddle to diddle like it's supposed to!

[Click to purchase](#)



For KS2, Mrs Shephard recommends...

The Giant's Necklace by Michael Morpurgo

It all began with a necklace, made of glistening pink cowrie shells. A long, long necklace that had taken Cherry days - weeks - of careful, painstaking work. It was nearly complete, and Cherry was determined it would be the longest necklace she had ever made; that it would be fit for a giant! But the end of the holidays had arrived. "You've only got today, Cherry," said her mother. "Just today, that's all." Cherry didn't mind, a day would be enough - she only needed a few more shells. So, amidst the taunts of her older brothers, she set out to search

for them. Then the clouds grew dark and the waves grew large, and as the storm blew in, Cherry realised, to her horror, that she was cut off from the shore. From then on, events began to take a decidedly dark turn. One from which there was no turning back...

[Click to purchase](#)

Dates for your diary

w/c 29/5	Half Term - school closed to pupils
Tues 6/6	Year 3 visit to Birmingham Central Library
Weds 7/6 - Fri 9/6	Year 6 residential trip to Blackwell Adventure
Tues 20/6	Year 6 going to St Mary's College, Oscott
Weds 21/6	Year 3 trip to Cadbury World
Fri 23/6	Sports' Day (weather permitting)
Thurs 6/7	MAC INSET Day - school closed to pupils
Fri 7/7	Year 3 'Going Forth' day
Sat 8/7	2pm-5pm PFA Summer Fair
Mon 17/7	4.30pm Leavers' Mass for Y6 and their families
Fri 21/7	Whole school Mass at 10am in church
Fri 21/7	2pm Leavers' Assembly
Fri 21/7	Last day in school for pupils - end of academic year 2022/2

God bless & have a wonderful half term,

Mr Porter
Executive Principal

Mrs Noble-Barton
Head of School