



## 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

*Love, live and learn with Jesus Christ.*

Dear Parents & Carers,

Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December 2023

### Advent

This week we were treated to a wonderful Nativity play performed by EYFS, Year 1 and Year 2. 'A Miracle in Town' led us beautifully through the events leading up to Jesus' birth. Thank you to the children and staff who worked so hard to make this happen.

Also, a huge thank you to anyone who donated to the retiring collection; a very impressive £298.92 was raised for the St Nicholas World Development Group. Thank you.

### Key Stage 2 Advent Prayer Services

As previously advertised, this week our KS2 pupils will be leading two prayer services:

- On **Tuesday 19/12 at 2.30pm Years 3 & 4** will lead a service based around the experience of the group of shepherds who were chosen as the first people to see Baby Jesus after His birth
- On **Thursday 21/12 at 2.30pm Years 5 & 6** will lead a service based around the very important role that John the Baptist had in 'preparing a way' for the Lord.

Both services will contain prayers, scripture reading and songs and will be an excellent way of preparing ourselves spiritually for Christmas.

Parents & Grandparents of KS2 pupils are most welcome to attend.

### Wednesday Word

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

[Click here for the WEDNESDAY WORD](#)

### Reverse Advent Calendar - YEARS 5 & 6 - IT'S YOUR TURN

Thank you to Years 2, 3 and 4 for the donations of tins and packets this week. Now we move on to Years 5 & 6:

Week	Year group/s responsible for donating	Items needed
<b>PLEASE DON'T SEND ANYTHING PERISHABLE!</b>		
W/c 18th December 2023	Years 5 & 6	Treats (mince pies, Christmas pudding, chocolates, wine, new toys)

### Rudolph Run

All classes have now completed their Rudolph Run for Birmingham Hospice, there are many excellent photos on our Twitter feed. We are achingly close to achieving our target of £500 (we were at £448 at the time of writing this). If you can give anything, please visit <https://www.justgiving.com/page/stnicholasrudolphrun2023>

Thank you.

### Are you following us on Twitter (or 'X' as it is now called)?

If you are not following us then you are missing out on some wonderful photos, updates and messages. Please request to follow us, our handle is **@StNicholasCP**. As part of our safeguarding procedures, we vet all follower requests. If your handle doesn't clearly identify who you are, we are likely not to accept your request. If this is the case, please ping an email to enquiry@ explaining what your handle is and who you are, then we can approve you.

### PFA Christmas Disco

A reminder that this event is happening on Wednesday 20th December from 3.30pm to 5pm. Wednesday is 'Christmas Jumper Day' for the whole school (regardless of disco attendance) and there is no charge for this. Uniforms should be worn but with a Christmas jumper rather than a school jumper or cardigan. Tickets for this event should be purchased directly from the PFA. Please pick up your child/children promptly at 5pm.

### 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.

### This week's attendance

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

Year group	% attendance for w/c 11.12.23	
Reception	89.17%	BELOW 90%
Year 1	95.83%	
Year 2	97.5%	
Year 3	95.83%	
Year 4	99.17%	
Year 5	91.67%	
Year 6	89.17%	BELOW 90%

Congratulations to Year 4 - this week's winners. You can negotiate your festive reward with Miss Godfrey!

### Lighthouse Preschool

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


### 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!

## Stamp Challenge

This parcel costs 55p to send.

It has 8 stamps on it. Each stamp is either a 5p or a 10p stamp.



How many 5p stamps are there?

How many 10p stamps are there?

### Word of the month

As we approach a new year, we would like to hear your suggestions for our word of the month as we want children's vocabulary to be as meaningful as possible. If you would like to make a suggestion, please click on the following [link](#). Thank you.

[Word of the month suggestions 2024](#)

### Young Voices

A reminder that the next choir session will be after Christmas on Wednesday 10th January.

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](#)

### 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](#)

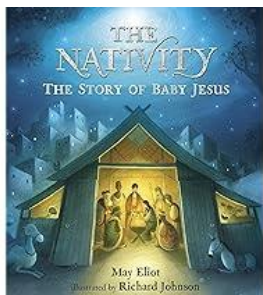
[Year 5](#)

[Year 6](#)

### Phonics home links

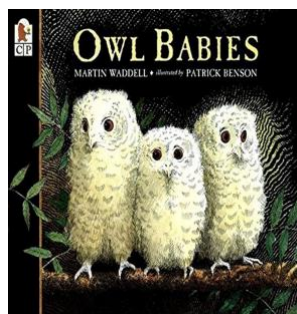
Group	Reading	Writing	Words to read
Mrs Bowen's lilac group	<a href="#">y</a> <a href="#">w</a> <a href="#">z</a> <a href="#">x</a>	<a href="#">y</a> <a href="#">w</a> <a href="#">z</a> <a href="#">x</a>	<a href="#">y</a> <a href="#">w</a> <a href="#">z</a> <a href="#">x</a> <a href="#">Reading words</a> <a href="#">Spelling words</a>
Mrs Connor's lilac group	<a href="#">y</a> <a href="#">y</a> <a href="#">w</a> <a href="#">z</a> <a href="#">x</a>	<a href="#">y</a> <a href="#">y</a> <a href="#">w</a> <a href="#">z</a> <a href="#">x</a>	<a href="#">y</a> <a href="#">y</a> <a href="#">w</a> <a href="#">z</a> <a href="#">x</a> <a href="#">Reading words</a> <a href="#">Spelling words</a>
Miss Beamond's purple group	<a href="#">igh</a> <a href="#">ow</a> <a href="#">oo</a> (zoo)	<a href="#">igh</a> <a href="#">ow</a> <a href="#">oo</a> (zoo)	<a href="#">Fred talk</a> <a href="#">Red words</a> <a href="#">Tab the cat</a>
Miss Guest's pink group	<a href="#">ow</a> <a href="#">oo</a> (zoo) <a href="#">oo</a> (look)	<a href="#">ow</a> <a href="#">oo</a> (zoo) <a href="#">oo</a> (look)	<a href="#">Fred talk</a> <a href="#">Red words</a> <a href="#">Sanjay stays in bed</a>
Mrs Trappett's and Mrs Vale's orange group	<a href="#">ear</a> <a href="#">ure</a> <a href="#">tion</a>	<a href="#">ear</a> <a href="#">ure</a> <a href="#">tion</a>	<a href="#">Fred talk</a> <a href="#">Red words</a> <a href="#">Come on, Margo!</a> <a href="#">My sort of horse</a>
Mrs Maguire's yellow group	<a href="#">oa</a> <a href="#">ew</a> <a href="#">oi</a>	<a href="#">oa</a> <a href="#">ew</a> <a href="#">oi</a>	<a href="#">Fred talk</a> <a href="#">Red words</a> <a href="#">Robin Hood</a>
Mrs Shephard's blue group	<a href="#">oa</a> <a href="#">ew</a>	<a href="#">oa</a> <a href="#">ew</a>	<a href="#">Fred talk</a> <a href="#">Red words</a> <a href="#">Our house</a>

## Staff book recommendations



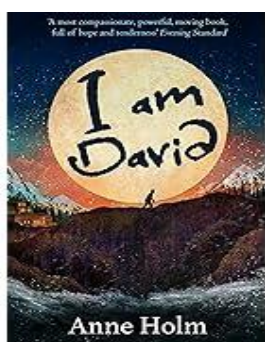
A special recommendation for Advent from Mrs Noble-Barton, suitable for EYFS and KS1. *The Nativity by May Eliot*

The greatest story ever told is born again in this beautiful new retelling of the nativity. The traditional feel and charming illustrations make it the perfect introduction to the Christmas story for little ones just discovering it for the first time. [Click to purchase](#)



For KS1, Mrs Shephard recommends... *Owl Babies by Martin Waddell*

"I want my mommy!" Three baby owls awake one night to find their mother gone, and they can't help but wonder where she is. What is she doing? When will she be back? What scary things move all around them? Stunning illustrations from striking perspectives capture the anxious little owls as they worry. Not surprisingly, joyous flapping and dancing and bouncing greet the mother's return, lending a celebratory tone to the ending of his comforting tale. Never has the plight of young ones who miss their mother been so simply told or so beautifully rendered. [Click to purchase](#)



For KS2, Mrs Rayment recommends... *I am David by Anne Holm*

'You must get away tonight,' the man had told him. David escapes from the concentration camp where he has spent his entire life and flees across Europe. He is utterly alone - who can he trust? What will await him? And all the while, how can he be sure that they won't catch up with him... This is the remarkable story of David's introduction to the world: sea, mountains and flowers, the colours of Italy, the taste of fruit, people laughing and smiling, all are new to David. David learns that his polite manner, his haunted eyes and his thin features are strange to other people. He must learn to fend for himself in this strange new world.

[Click to purchase](#)

## Dates for the diary

19/12/23	Years 3 & 4 Advent Prayer Service - parents invited - 2.30pm
20/12/23	Christmas Jumper Day for the whole school - no charge
21/12/23	Years 5 & 6 Advent Prayer Service - parents invited - 2.30pm
22/12/23	End of Autumn Term - last day in school for pupils

## CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS W.B 25/12/23 & 1/1/24

8/1/24	Start of Spring Term - pupils back in school
23/2/24	Young Voices concert
15/4/24	INSET Day - school closed to children
4/7/24	INSET Day - school closed to children

## PFA events

20/12/23	Christmas Disco from 3.30pm-5pm
5/7/24	Summer Festival from 4pm-6pm

God bless,  
Mr Porter  
Executive Principal

Mrs Noble-Barton  
Head of School

Miss Smith  
Assistant Head

Registered Office: c/o Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School, Earlsbury Gardens, Birmingham, B20 3AE

**E:** enquiry@sjp2.net | **T:** 0121 354 6270 | **W:** johnpaulii.co.uk

Catholic Senior Executive Leader (CSEL): Mr M Emery

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