



25th March 2023

Dear Parents & Carers,

Gospel Virtues

This half term we are focusing on becoming more LEARNED and WISE. Staff members have been looking for pupils who have been living out these virtues. Pupils who have received a virtues wristband this week are: Ailbe (Y1), Carter (Y1), Francis (Y2), Connie (Y1), Carter (Rec), Clodagh (Rec), Leon (Rec), Alfie (Rec), Beaumont (Y2), Jessica (Y2) & Isla (Y2), Nancy (Y2), Emily (Y2), Frankie (Y2).

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

[Click here for the Wednesday Word](#)



Sacrament of Confirmation

Last night, 29 Y6 pupils and two from the parish were confirmed by Archbishop Bernard Longley in a very spiritual Mass. It was wonderful to see these young people taking the next step in their journey of faith. Thank you to the sponsors, parents & teachers of these young people who have prepared them so well. Please continue to pray for them all as they start to discern their vocations.

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Our Year 3 pupils have begun receiving their Sacrament of Reconciliation and will continue to do so over the next two weeks. Please pray for these children as they receive this sacrament for the first time.

KS2 Holy Week Service (Passion Play)

Our KS2 pupils and staff are working hard to put together a short play depicting the events of Holy Week. This will be performed at 9.30am on Tuesday 4/4 and 9.30am on Wednesday 5/4 - the link for tickets went live this week. Pupils have the privilege of being able to perform this during Holy Week, what a wonderful way to end the term and lead us in our final Lenten preparations.

Parents' Evenings

Parents' Evenings take place on Tuesday 28th and Wednesday 29th March, appointments went live this week. Please note that appointments must take place on these days. These dates were advertised a long time in advance to ensure that parents/carers could organise their diaries accordingly. Apart from one or two exceptional circumstances which we know about, appointments should be taken on 28th/29th. Thank you.

INSET Day - Thursday 6th July

Please note that the St John Paul II MAC has designated Thursday 6th July 2023 as an INSET day. School will be closed to pupils on this day and will reopen on Friday 7th July.

Achievement Assembly

This Friday (31st March) will be the last Achievement Assembly of this term. The next one will be Friday 28th April.

Cake Sale

Well done to the group of Y5 pupils (and parents!) who organised a cake sale in school on Thursday. They raised £175.12 for the Turkey/Syria Earthquake Disaster Relief Fund. Another example of pupils in our school living out their Catholic vocation to help those in need.

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](#)

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!

Year 6 Careers Week (Monday 3rd - Friday 7th July)

As our Year 6 pupils prepare to embark on their secondary school journey, we would like to give them an insight into the wealth of employment opportunities open to them. With this in mind, we are organising a 'Careers Week' and would like to invite parents and/or family members to share their jobs with our pupils. This would involve discussing the following: route to employment including subjects suitable to take forward in Year 9, entailment of your job role and why you enjoy it, opportunities for progression and personal experiences. If this is something that you would be interested in, please email enquiry@stnicholassutton.org.uk. Thank you.

Phonics home links

[Pink](#)

[Grey](#)

[Orange 1](#)

[Orange 2](#)

[Green 1](#)

[Green 2](#)

[Green 3](#)

[Yellow 1](#)

[Yellow 2](#)

[Red 1](#)

[Red 2](#)

[Fast track 1](#)

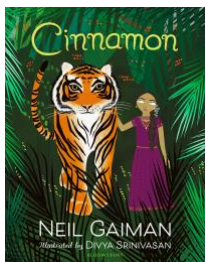
[Fast track 2](#)

[Fast track 3](#)

Staff Book Recommendations

For KS1, Mrs Burling-Finn recommends...

Cinnamon by Neil Gaiman



In a hot, hot country, ringed with mountains on one side and jungle on the other, lives a princess called Cinnamon. Her eyes are made of pearls, which means that she is blind. And, for reasons her parents, the Rajah and Rani cannot fathom, she will not talk. So they offer a reward to anyone who can teach Cinnamon to speak. People travel from far and wide to attempt it, but nothing works. Until a mighty tiger, huge and fierce, prowls into their palace and announces that he is here to teach the girl-cub to talk ...

[Click to purchase](#)

For KS2, Miss Smith recommends...

Cogheart by Peter Bunzl



Lily's life is in mortal peril. Her father is missing and now silver-eyed men stalk her through the shadows. What could they want from her? With her friends - Robert, the clockmaker's son, and Malkin, her mechanical fox - Lily is plunged into a murky and menacing world. Too soon Lily realises that those she holds dear may be the very ones to break her heart... Murder, mayhem and mystery meet in this gripping Victorian adventure.

[Click to purchase](#)

Dates for your diary

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
Monday 24/4	First day of Summer Term for all pupils
Tuesday 25/4	Year 5 curriculum workshop for parents - 9am
Tuesday 25/4	Year 4 visit to Birmingham Central Library
Weds 26/4 - Fri 28/4	Year 5 residential retreat to Alton Castle
Thurs 27/4	Year 3 First Holy Communion Retreat from One Life Music
Mon 1/5	May Day - Bank Holiday
Mon 8/5	King's Coronation - Bank Holiday
Tues 9/5 - Fri 12/5	KS2 SATs Tests (Y6) to be administered
Weds 7/6 - Fri 9/6	Year 6 residential trip to Blackwell Adventure
Thurs 6/7	MAC INSET Day - school closed to pupils

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 \(stnicholassutton.org.uk\)](http://StNicholas(stnicholassutton.org.uk))



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