



Dream big, shine bright

St NICHOLAS

C of E Primary School, Alcester

These newsletters are published monthly and highlight upcoming events, celebrate success and relay important messages. Copies can always be found on our website.

Issue 142

St Nicholas C of E Primary School – Newsletter

December 2023



The end of the Autumn term is here!

What a long and busy term it has been.

This week has been a festive treat. Reception performed the most magical Nativity, Key stage 1 delivered a fantastic Christmas production at the Greig Hall, Key Stage 2 children led an Advent service at St Nicholas Church. As ever, all the children rose to the challenge of performing to their family and friends demonstrating amazing resilience & collaboration. I am mindful that the staff work so hard all year but are so dedicated to supporting the children to do their best with all the performances, giving up so much of their own time particularly at this time of year! A huge thank you to all our staff!

On behalf of the staff team - Thank you so much to our families for the Christmas cards, gifts and delicious treats that you have so kindly shared.

Wishing you all a wonderful Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Mrs Laura Newell, Head of School



Congratulations to all the children in

Ragley

Who are this month's
House Point Champions!

DIARY DATES AUTUMN TERM

Monday 8th January

INSET day – school closed to children
Staff training ASD

Tuesday 9th January

Spring term starts – children back to school
Gates open at 8.40am

Wednesday 10th January

PPA kit for Reception
PPA kit for year 5 and 6

Thursday 11th January

PPA kit for year 3 & 4

Friday 12th January

PPA kit for year 1 & 2

**Check class pages for which
PPA kit you need!**

<https://st-nicholas-cofe-primary.secure-primariesite.net/class-pages/>

St Nicholas C of E Primary School

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Book of the Month

December's book
Of the month is...

<https://st-nicholas-cofe-primary.secure-primariesite.net/book-of-the-month/>



Read by
Miss McKelvie

Dream Big Shine Bright



Well done to our entire school community for absolutely smashing our Santa Run target! As of today we have raised £2386.

The event was a real success and the children were so pleased with their medals. It was a joy to see so many bobbing Santa hats moving around school.

A special mention must go to Louie who raised over £200 for the cause! Wow!



The donation link is live until the end of the month for any final sponsorship money to be donated.

To donate scan the QR code or click on link below

St.Nicholas Primary School

www.justgiving.com/campaign/st-nicholas-primary-school-santas-for-school



Dream Big Shine Bright



Bug has been training very hard to pass her Pets as Therapy assessment, we are pleased to announce that she passed with flying colours and is now a fully fledged PAT dog. In the new year, Bug & Mrs Howl will be visiting other local settings including; schools, care homes and hopefully the hospital to spread Bug's joy far and wide.

SPEND

Support for **P**arents of children with
Educational needs, **N**eurodiversity and **D**ifficulties.

SPEND is a monthly parent/carer support group for people caring for children with additional needs who feel isolated or overwhelmed in Alcester, Bidford, Studley and surrounding villages.



Come and spend time with people who understand.

FIRST MEETING: FRIDAY 12TH JANUARY 2024 - 9.45-11.15AM

The Depot, Eric Payne Community Centre
off St Faith's Road, Alcester, B496AG

ST NICHOLAS CHURCH OF ENGLAND
LYFTA CHRISTMAS
Challenge

PART 1

How many different names for Father Christmas can you find from across the globe?

PART 2

Many countries have different Christmas time traditions. Research one ready to present to your class in the New Year.

Come on Lyfta stars! Get involved with this challenge.
More info on the next page...

FLYFTA LJ

Lyfta Christmas Challenge

PART 1

Father Christmas is known by so many different names across the globe...

What do different countries call him? Can you discover 5...or more!?

Name of the Country	What name do they use for Father Christmas?

PART 2

Different parts of the worlds have different Christmas time traditions.

Your task is to make a presentation explaining an unusual Christmas tradition from somewhere in the world. You will share what you have found out with your class, when you return in the New Year. Here are some examples of unusual Christmas Traditions from around the world:

The Netherlands - Shoes by the Fire

Italy - Belfana the Witch

Norway - Flying Witches

Sweden - Donald Duck

New Zealand - Alternative Christmas Tree

CHALLENGE DEADLINE:

JANUARY 12th 2024

*Electronic entries can be e-mailed
into the office.*

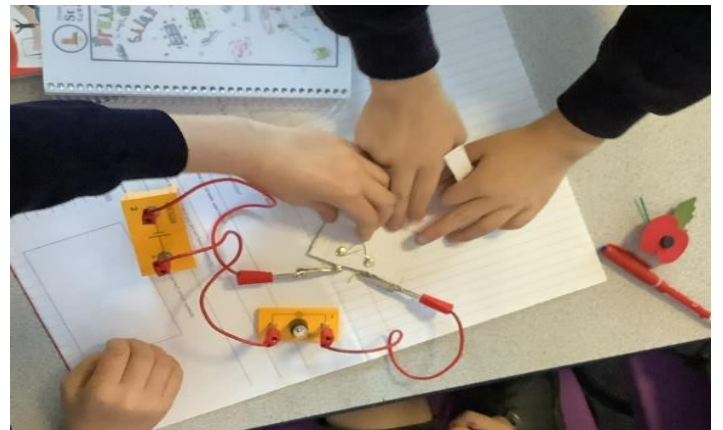
How to present your work?

The choice is yours. However here are some ideas:

- Written notes to help when talking to the class
- Create a powerpoint
- Make a sway
- Design a poster

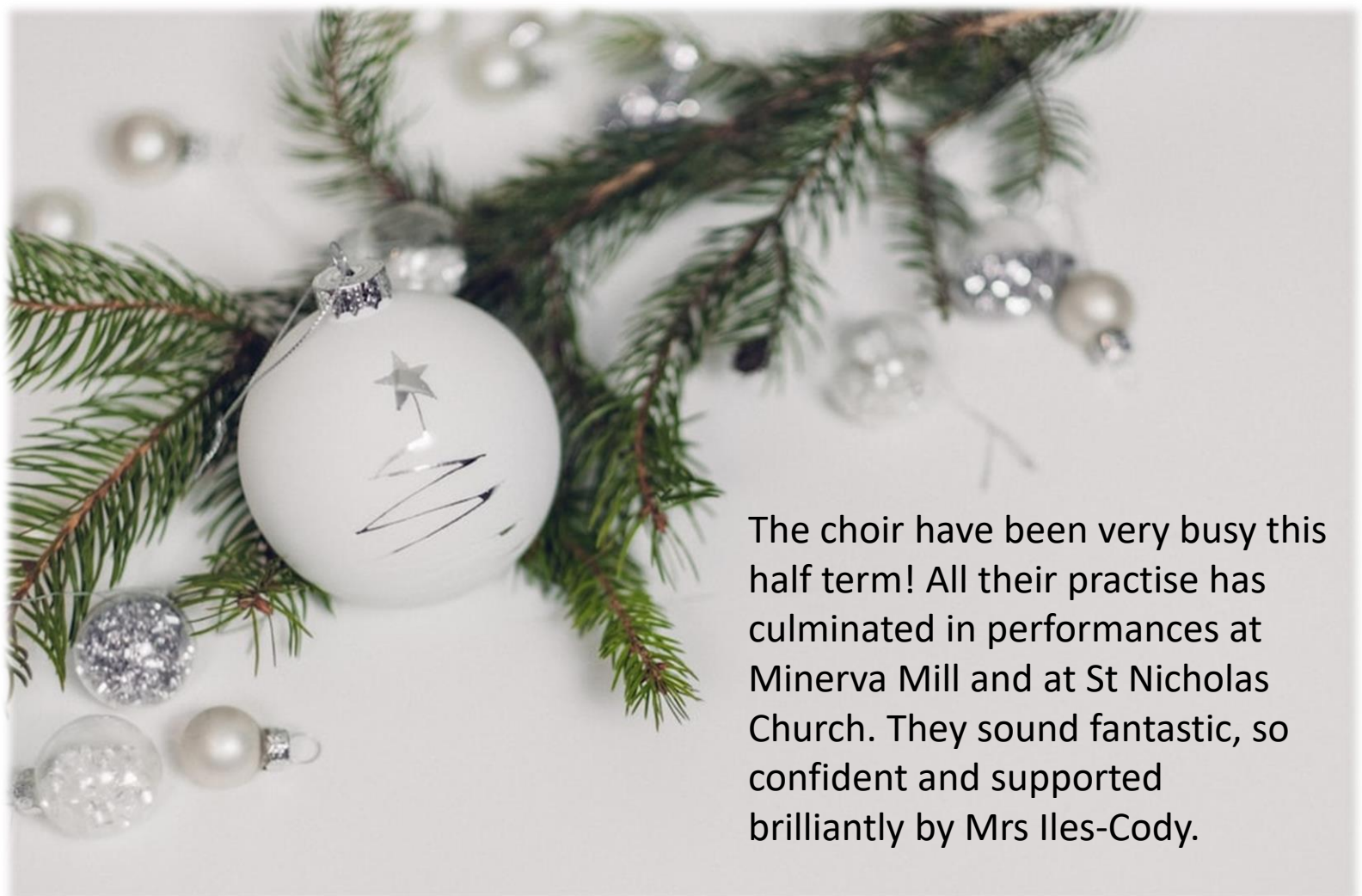
The choices is yours!

Design Technology – year 4



In DT this half term, Year 4 have designed and made torches with a working electrical circuit and switch.

The children carefully considered the target audience and created both design and success criteria focusing on features of individual design ideas. Once the children had finished, they tested and evaluated the success of their final product. The children put a lot of time and effort into this project and thoroughly enjoyed making torches!



The choir have been very busy this half term! All their practise has culminated in performances at Minerva Mill and at St Nicholas Church. They sound fantastic, so confident and supported brilliantly by Mrs Iles-Cody.

Christmas Choir performances





The children in year 1 have been reading the book The Polar Express and to finish off we have enjoyed a Polar Express themed day. Year 1 arrived wearing their pyjamas and the conductors punched their tickets, after we carried out a survey to find out who enjoys marshmallows with their hot chocolate and discussed why we should get to go on the Polar Express. The day was finished by enjoying a cup of hot chocolate and watching the film all together.



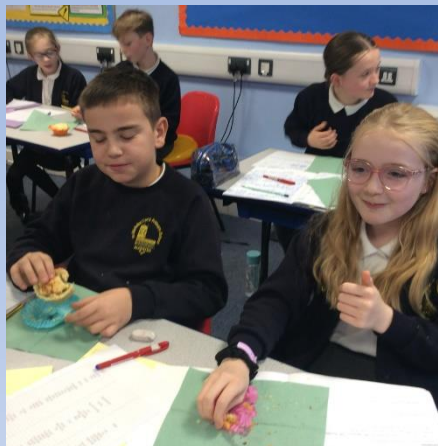
Year 6 Design Technology

Come dine with me style pie making

Making



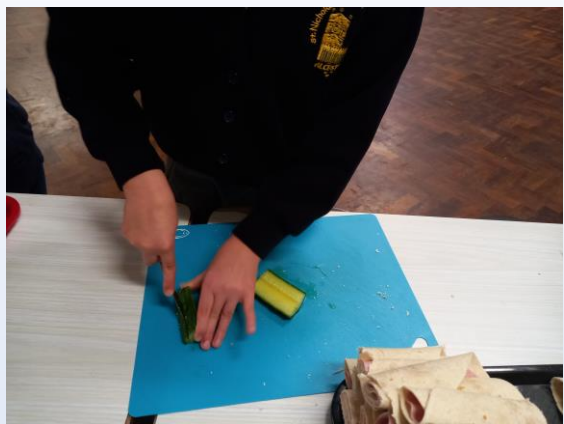
Tasting



St Nicholas Night

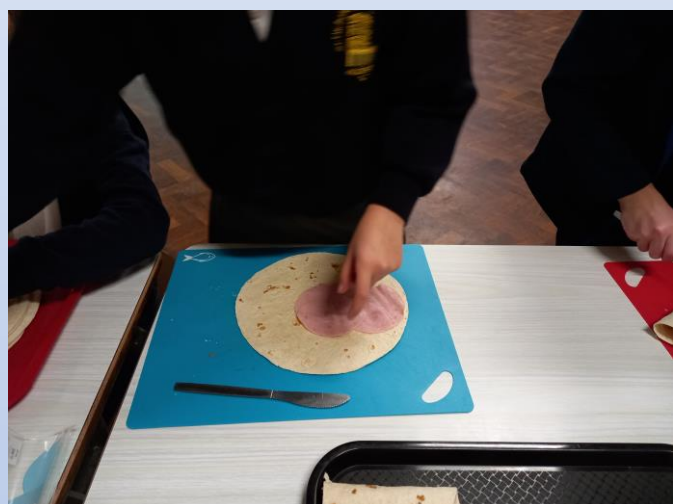


Thank you to Alex, Esme, Paige and Jessica for playing such a huge part in this year's evening. You were the perfect role models for our school.



What's

happening in



Wraparound?



Lots of fun and life skills being developed in wraparound. The staff are fantastic at supporting children with 'make your own tea' sessions. The wraps and crudités looked very tasty!



Mental Health in Schools Team (MHST)

Tips For Wellness:

DIGITAL DETOX

Technology has become a normal part of our day-to-day lives and is widely beneficial; from being used as an alarm to wake us up in the morning, to helping us stay connected with family, and watching our favourite programme wherever we are in the world! However, prolonged use of technology can increase stress levels and have an unhealthy impact on our mental wellbeing.

A digital detox can help to improve sleep quality, reduce stress and anxiety, enhance productivity, increase creativity, and improve self-awareness.

Our tips for digital detox:

1- Phone free zones. Keeping phones out of certain rooms may help you to stick to your detox plan. This will remove the temptation to reach for your phone/mobile device and it allows you to enjoy your space away from technology!

2- 30 minute rule. Try to swap using your phone before bed for a screen-free activity instead! This should be for at least the last 30 minutes of the day. The blue light from screens tricks our brain into thinking it is daytime, which disrupts the production of melatonin (the hormone we need to feel sleepy!) Activities could be reading, mindful colouring, tidying, journaling, playing a musical instrument, board games, meditation, completing a puzzle, or self-care.

3- Take regular screen breaks. Stepping away from the screen helps us to balance our digital and real-world lives. This will also increase our self-awareness, productivity and overall happiness.



#ThanksKids recognises the efforts and kindness of children and young people, and thanks them with personalised #NHSStars certificates. If you know a child or young person that deserves recognition for going above and beyond, don't wait, nominate!

thankskids@covwarkpt.nhs.uk

MHST are available to support you and your school throughout the school year including term time and school holidays. Please contact your school's Mental Health Lead for information and advice.



Supporting Your Anxious Child - Free Class



Thursday 8th February 2024



7:30pm

Book Now

Related Content



How to Enjoy a Family Christmas



Creating Family Traditions Together



Practical Ideas to Help with Faecal Smearing



Childcare During School Holidays: Using Family Support

Upcoming Classes



<https://www.myfamilycoach.com/supporting-my-anxious-child-free-class/>



FACES FOR ALL

A LOCAL, COMMUNITY INTEREST COMPANY.

WE WISH TO PROVIDE THE FIRST STATE OF THE ART DAY PROVISION FOR ADULTS WITH DISABILITIES IN SOUTH WARWICKSHIRE.

WE WISH TO RENOVATE THE OLD LIBRARY IN ALCESTER AND NEED YOUR HELP, SUPPORT AND ENGAGEMENT OVER WHAT THE PROVISION WILL LOOK LIKE.

WE ARE THEREFORE PLEASED TO INVITE YOU TO PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT MEETINGS, AS FOLLOWS;

MONDAY 8TH JANUARY 2.30PM

FRIDAY 12TH JANUARY 6.30PM

VENUE: THE ERIC PAYNE COMMUNITY CENTRE, ST. FAITHS ROAD, ALCESTER B49 6AG

PLEASE COMPLETE THE SHORT SURVEY BELOW

