



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 138

St Nicholas C of E Primary School – Newsletter

11th September 2023



Dear Families,

What a wonderful first week of the Autumn term we have had.

Welcoming back the children in years 1-6, on Tuesday was a real pleasure. We started the day with a Whole school Worship, thinking about our goals and aspirations for the year. There are some great ones including; learning to juggle, achieving a handwriting licence, remembering to put our hand up when others are talking and learning to listen better to others. I am always amazed at just how reflective our children are!

On Wednesday we welcomed our new Reception children, they have been settling in beautifully, I had a lot of fun on Friday getting served a variety of different culinary creations in the role play!

Can we also take a moment to say a warm welcome to a number of new families that have joined us across school and two new members of staff. Miss Burford joins us in year 1 and Mrs Devereux in year 5. We are so excited for them both to join the St Nics team. Other exciting news is that Mrs O'Hanlon has been appointed to our leadership team, as our new Assistant Head alongside Mrs Allen and I.

It has been wonderful to catch up with so many of you on the gate this week and hear all about your summer.

Best wishes,

Mrs Laura Newell
Head of School

DIARY DATES AUTUMN TERM

Friday 15th September

Wellie swap on KS2 playground (see info attached)

Tuesday 26th September

Bell boating 6A

Thursday 28th September

New Reception families meeting – 7pm

Tuesday 3rd October

Bell boating 6G

27th October INSET day

School closed to children

Autumn half term

30th October to 3rd November

Tuesday 19th December

Reception Nativity performance
(evening in school hall)

Wednesday 20th December

Year 1 and 2 Christmas performance
(evening, at Greig Hall)

St Nicholas C of E Primary School

St Faiths Road,
Alcester,
Warwickshire,
B49 6AG

01789 762578

admin3595@welearn365.com

Community involvement... can you create a poppy for our Remembrance display?

Mrs Howl is organising a display for the Foyer which will consist of knitted poppies from lots of members of the school community. The idea being that we can use them this year and then keep adding to them every year. Poppies can be knitted, crocheted, felted or any other way to showcase your creative talents. Ideally, they need to be no bigger than the palm of your hand. If using thread, please leave some thread on the back to enable them to be tied together.

You are welcome to create them in red with a black middle to represent those who have served and continue to serve in the military. Or purple, to represent the animals that have fallen in service.

Below is a knitting pattern for those who would like to knit one.



YOU WILL NEED

- Any red DK yarn
- A pair of 4mm (US 6) needles
- A small black button

TENSION

Not important for this project

ABBREVIATIONS

See www.gathered.how

POPPY

Cast on 60 sts using 4mm needles and red DK yarn.

Rows 1-8 (K2, P2) to end.

Row 9 (K2tog) to end. [30 sts]

Row 10 (S2kpo) to end. [10 sts]

Break off yarn, leaving a long tail. Thread tail through remaining 10 sts and pull tight, then fasten off yarn.

Join the edges of the poppy together and sew the black button in the centre of the poppy.



SEND INCLUSION



WELCOME BACK



For families who are new, my name is Hannah Allen the Assistant Head and SENCo (Inclusion Lead) at St Nicholas Primary School. It is lovely to welcome both familiar and new families into our school community for an exciting new year ahead. Following the success of our Coffee Mornings last year, I am excited to announce the first meet-up.

Over the coming weeks, please come and say hello and if you have any questions or worries regarding your child/ren, please do not hesitate to get in touch.



Our first coffee morning gives us the opportunity to catch-up and come together following the summer holidays. If you're a new family joining our school, a parent/carer of a child with additional needs or member of the school community looking to build their social network, please feel free to pop along.

Focus:

- Share the St Nicholas SEND Information Report
- Discuss what's on offer for support in Warwickshire (recap on what's available)
- Ask questions or advice about something specific
- Meet new people in a relaxed and friendly environment

Thursday 28th September

Arrive from 8:50am

Start: **9am**

Approx. – 1.5 hours

Important updates for Parents and Carers

PPA kit this half term	
Monday	
Tuesday	
Wednesday	RH - sport RP - sport 5G – Music and Sport 5W – Music and Sport 6G – Forest school 6A – Spanish and Sport
Thursday	3H – Music and Sport 3K – Music and Sport 4H – Spanish and Sport 4J – Forest school
Friday	1B – Music and Sport 1M – Music and Sport 2O – Spanish and Sport 2W – Forest school

Holiday / Leave of Absence Requests

As per Government guidance, all holiday requests will be unauthorised unless the circumstances are deemed exceptional by the Head of School. Please see guidance on Warwickshire website for further information

<https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/school-attendance-exclusions/school-attendance-guidance-parentscarers>

Should you wish to request leave of absence for your child(ren) please complete our electronic form.

<https://forms.office.com/r/2jbNUFCAda>

Reception Parent Information Evening Thursday 28th September at 7pm

There is a meeting for parents of Reception children on 28th September. This is another opportunity to meet key staff and receive further information about the curriculum in Reception.



Wellie Swap



With the colder and wetter weather on its way, we want to continue to allow our children to access the whole grounds as much as possible. To do this we need children to have suitable clothing and footwear.

We will be holding a 'Wellie Swap' on Friday 15th September at 3.15pm on the KS2 playground.

Come along and collect a pair of wellies or waterproof clothing for your child.

If you have any items to swap (wellies, waterproof trousers or jackets) please bring them along too.

We look forward to seeing you!



Over the summer holidays we had a new sandpit installed. This was kindly donated by one of our parents, Kyle Randall (Bidford Landscapes) and also MKM Building Supplies. We are truly grateful for their support.

Weather warning:

We aim to get outside to play in almost all types of weathers. Please ensure your child always has a waterproof coat in school and wellies. Our children are encouraged to play freely; they sometimes get messy..... so please don't send the children to school in coats you don't want to get dirty. We do appreciate that it does cause more washing for parents but this is far outweighed by the benefits of this type of play.



Donations

We are continuing to add to our loose parts resources for play. Please think carefully before throwing anything away because we can put them to good use.

At the moment we are looking for:

- cable reels, guttering , drainpipe, tarpaulin, slides
- Buckets, spades, trowels, diggers etc. for sandpit
- Outdoor tables and chairs / picnic bench / Lego table
- Kitchen utensils, colanders, tonne bags (builders)

Important updates for Parents and Carers



Breaktime Snacks years 3-6

Children in Year 3-6 can bring a snack into school for break time. This snack needs to be fruit or veg please.

Suggestions: a piece of fruit, vegetable sticks, dried fruit

We will also continue to provide fresh fruit for the KS2 children to ensure that there is plenty of choice.

Water bottles

Please remember to send children in with a refillable water bottle. The weather looks lovely for this next week so they will definitely need to be keeping hydrated.

All children need a water bottle in school, everyday please.



Packed lunches

If children are bringing a packed lunch to school please be aware we have several children and staff who have specific food allergies, particularly NUTS. We therefore ask all parents who prepare packed lunches for their children not to include any nut products, e.g. Peanut butter or Nutella sandwiches or nutty snack bars.

Thank you.



Community Pantry

Due to all the current building work the Community Pantry will remain closed. Once the safety fencing is removed we will be up and running again.

A reminder that children need to arrive at school between 8.40am and 8.45am

Reception, year 1 and 2 finish their school day at 3.10pm

Year 3, 4, 5, and 6 finish at 3.15pm



Year 4 Science

In Science this week, Year 4 have started their new topic of States Of Matter. In our first lesson, we explored the three states of matter: solids, liquids and gases and we also compared them. We acted out the particles in each state of matter to show how the particles look and move.





Thank you so much to our lovely Friends of St Nicholas for creating and gifting Tea and Tissues care packages to our new Reception families, there were some wonderful treats in there!

The Friends of Alcester St Nicholas School support the staff and students of the school. Anyone with a link to the school is a friend and everyone is welcome.

The Friends organise a series of events throughout the year that enrich the children's experiences at the school and raise money for school projects and equipment.

We always appreciate people who can donate their time and/or skills – from an hour wrapping presents at Christmas, to baking goodies, to helping out at discos and film night.

If you would like to be involved, or just keep in touch with what we are up to, please find us on Facebook;

www.facebook.com/friendsofstnicholas

Alternatively you can contact us by email at;

stnicholasfriends@gmail.com

**Friends AGM 8pm on 28th
September at school – everyone
welcome!**

The Friends of St Nicholas have just set us up with a fundraising account through MY NAMETAGS
If you purchase name tags through this company we get a portion of the amount!
Remember to use our school ID if you order.



NO MORE LOST ITEMS!

Our nametags are perfect to label
all of your child's possessions.
From clothing to shoes, stationery,
toys - everything is identified!



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