



*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 145

## St Nicholas C of E Primary School – Newsletter

May 2024



Welcome to the May round up!

As ever, there has been lots happening across school with the added addition of an Ofsted visit right in the midst of our Year 6 SATs week!

A huge thank you to all our families who supported us throughout inspection and to all the children, staff and our Governors for pulling together and showing what a fantastic school we are. We were all incredibly proud of how our Year 6 pupils undertook the SATs assessments, demonstrating resilience and courage ensuring that they did their best.

A reminder to pop over to our Facebook page which includes regular updates of what is happening at St Nics.  
[https://www.facebook.com/AlcesterStNics/?locale=en\\_GB](https://www.facebook.com/AlcesterStNics/?locale=en_GB)

**Mrs Laura Newell,**  
Head of School



## DIARY DATES SUMMER TERM

### Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> June

Reception measurement programme pen water swimming – year 5

### Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> – Friday 28<sup>th</sup> June

PGL – Year 6

### Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> July

Tennis tasters year 5 and 6 (during school)

### Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> July

Tennis tasters year 3 and 4 (during school)

### Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> July

Brean Beach trip – year 1 and 2

### Friday 5<sup>th</sup> July

Tennis tasters year 1 and 2  
Non-Uniform in exchange of sweets for the Friends Autumn Fayre

### Monday 8<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> July

Heart of England for year 3

### Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> July

Reception and KS1 Sports Day

### Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> July

Moving up day for whole school

More Diary dates on our online calendar...  
<https://www.alcesterstnicholas.co.uk/diary/grid/2024/06/>

## St Nicholas C of E Primary School

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# Meet the Governors

Over the last academic year we welcomed a number of new members to the school governing board. We wanted to use this newsletter to let you know who we all are and what responsibilities each governor has on the board.

The board has four types of governors:

Parent Governors who are parents of children at the school and are elected by parent vote.

Co-opted Governors who are appointed to the governing board for specific skills.

Foundation Governors who are appointed by the diocese on behalf of the church.

Staff Governors who are members of staff at the school, elected by colleagues and join the board on a voluntary basis.

The governing board provides strategic oversight to the school and supports the senior leadership team and the teaching staff in delivering high quality education to all our pupils. This is achieved through regular governors' meetings as well as visiting and observing the running of the school.

If you would like to contact the Chair of Governors or any member of the Governing Board, please contact the school office and they can put you in touch.

Governance page on school website <https://st-nicholas-cofe-primary.secure-primariesite.net/governance/>

| Name               | Type                                  | Key Focus                                   |
|--------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|
| Chris Newitt       | Chair of Governors<br>Parent Governor | School Improvement,<br>Attainment & OPAL    |
| Vincent Foy        | Vice Chair<br>Co-opted Governor       | Finance & GDPR                              |
| Charlotte Carr     | Co-opted Governor                     | Attendance, Safeguarding<br>& Online Safety |
| Andrew Deeks       | Foundation Governor                   | Staffing                                    |
| Cressida Dolphin   | Foundation Governor                   | Curriculum                                  |
| Sarah Folkes       | Foundation Governor                   | Special Educational Needs<br>& Inclusion    |
| Hannah Lardner     | Parent Governor                       | Communications & Family<br>Engagement       |
| Andy Mathias       | Parent Governor                       | School Improvement                          |
| Pam Phillips       | Co-opted Governor                     | Health & Safety                             |
| Laura Newell       | Head of School                        |                                             |
| Kerry Badger       | Staff Governor                        |                                             |
| Victoria Ganderton | Clerk to the Governors                |                                             |



# Dream Big Shine Bright

## Well done Keegan and Kai!

A huge well done to Keegan and Kai for completing the Wolfrun with their family!

The photos of the event were amazing (very wet and muddy) and Keegan was so proud to show his medal in our Dream Big, Shine Bright celebration.





# Our first Panathlon

A group of six children went to Myton School in Leamington to take part in our first Panathlon. This was the first primary Panathlon that has been organised in the local area. This was organised by a Panathlon specialist and included; table cricket, parachute, bowling and curling. Our Panathlon team came third and were awarded with certificates and bronze medals.



<https://www.yourschoolgames.com/ta-king-part/our-sports/panathlon/>



## Viking Experience Day – year 5

The children had a wonderful day on Tuesday learning all about the Vikings from Viking Chris. They explored a range of different aspects of Viking life. Why don't you ask them all about the battle they took part in!





# After school Art club



Such wonderful creations have been created during art club with George from ArtBase.



# Archery competition



Well done to our archery super stars who competed at a recent competition winning the first round to become South Warwickshire champions. They were then invited to Newbold sports centre to compete against 8 other schools where our team were awarded the Values award for demonstrating the sports values during the competition.



# Year 2 – Outdoor Collective worship



Year 2 went outside in the sunshine to take part in their first Outdoor Collective Worship. This time looking at clouds and appreciating the natural world around us.

13<sup>th</sup> May - How lovely to also have a visit from Bishop Ruth and Reverend Katie Cross who popped in whilst Bishop Ruth was in the locality.





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We had fun  
following  
instructions and  
turning each  
other into  
Mummies!





## LEAVE OF ABSENCE DURING TERM TIME UPDATED INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

The Supreme Court clarified has clarified the law on unauthorised leave, including holidays, during term time (Platt v Isle of Wright 2017). The Supreme Court has made clear that attending school 'regularly' means that the children must attend school on every day that they are required to do so. As such, the parents of any child who is absent from school without authorisation for any length of time are likely to be considered as committing an offence under s444 of the Education Act 1996.

The regulations regarding Leave of Absence (The Education (Pupil Regulations) (England) Regulations 2006 as amended by Education (Pupil Regulations) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2013.) advise:

•Head teachers **shall not** grant **any** Leave of Absence during term time **unless they consider** there are **exceptional** circumstances relating to the application.

If the leave is granted, Head teachers are able to determine the number of school days a child can be absent for.

It is for the Head teacher to decide what is 'exceptional' and it is at their discretion if the circumstances warrant the leave to be granted. When making an application for Leave of Absence in advance parents are advised to give sufficient information and time to allow the Head teacher the opportunity to consider all the exceptional circumstances and to notify parents of their decision. It is advised that if the resident parent has not received notification or a response regarding the leave of absence application, it is their responsibility to ascertain if the leave is authorised prior to the start of the leave.

The school can only consider Leave of Absence requests which are made by the 'resident' parent ie the parent with whom the child normally resides.

Where applications for leave of absence are made in advance and refused, the child will be required to be in school on the dates set out in the application. If the child is absent during that period, it will be recorded as an unauthorised absence, which may result in legal action being taken against the parent(s), by way of a Fixed Penalty Notice.

Where a leave of absence is requested, but additional days taken either prior to or after the request may be considered as part of the leave of absence and could result in a Fixed Penalty Notice being issued to the parent(s).

*Each application for a leave of absence will be considered on a case-by-case basis and on its own merits.*

Leave of Absences which are not made in advance cannot be authorised in line with legislation. This will result in the absence being recorded as 'unauthorised'. This may result in legal action against the parent, by way of a Fixed Penalty Notice. All matters of unauthorised absence relating to a Leave of Absence will be referred to the Warwickshire Attendance Service, part of Warwickshire County Council.

**It is important to note**, Fixed Penalty Notices are issued to each parent of each absent child, (for example 2 children and 2 parents, means each parent will receive 2 invoices in the amount of £120 each, totalling £240 for both children, this is reduced to £60 per child if paid within 21 days).

Where a Fixed Penalty Notice is not paid within the required timeframe as set out on the notice, the matter will be referred to Warwickshire County Council's Legal Services to consider instigating criminal proceedings under S444 Education Act 1996.

Fixed Penalty Notices are issued in accordance with Warwickshire County Council's Code of Conduct for Penalty Notices.

**Your child's progress academically as well as socially is our shared priority**

**Warwickshire School pupils recorded 96,366 half day sessions of absence due to holiday in the Academic year 2021/22.**





Supporting mental health among young people



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#WakeUpWednesday

This guide has been written by Anna Bateman. Anna is passionate about placing prevention at the heart of every school, integrating mental wellbeing within the curriculum, school culture and systems. She is also a member of the advisory group for the Department of Education, advising them on their mental health green paper.



## 2. DISCUSS REAL-LIFE CONNECTIONS



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- Source 1: <https://www.centriformentalhealth.org.uk/publications/social-media-young-people-and-mental-health>,  
<http://www.cna.gov.uk/people-populations-and-communities/wellbeing/articles/cna-social-media-wellbeing/2015-10-20>,  
<https://www.nursing.org.uk/uploader/assets/uploads/side/162b6270a-a35f-4771-9af866bc2ac7a-14-mca-a.pdf>,  
<http://www.psychologytoday.com/us/blog/cutting-edge-dogs-head-erash/2013/05/15-walking-a-74-mile-mental-health-risk>



# TikTok



TikTok is a free social media platform used to create and share short videos. TikTok rules require the user to be 13 or older to use it and with parental consent if you're under 18. Users are able to create videos of themselves lip-syncing that can last up to 60 seconds. You are able to watch other user's streams & videos, you may be exposed to inappropriate content.

Stay safe on TikTok using the instructions on their **Digital Wellbeing** section, **Blocking** & **Reporting** below.

## Digital Wellbeing

Set up Restricted Mode, Screen Time Management on your TikTok app:

- Tap on  in the bottom right corner of the app.
- Tap on  in the bottom right corner of the app.
- Scroll down and tap on **Digital Wellbeing**.

## Block

Block a user using these simple instructions:

- Go to the profile of the user you wish to block.
- Tap on .
- Tap on **Block** and then confirm.

## Report

Report a user using these simple instructions:

- Go to the profile of the user you wish to report.
- Tap on  and then select **Report**.
- Select **Report Account** or **Report Content**.
- Select the reason you are reporting and hit **Submit**.

