



Dream big, shine bright

St NICHOLAS

C of E Primary School, Alcester

Weekly What's On

w/c 11th May 2026

Whole school Reminders

Census Menu

On Tuesday 21st May 2026 it is school Census Day. On this day, we'll be serving a fun and exciting school menu and we would love as many children as possible to join in!

Census Day is when schools record how many children have a school meal. The number of meals taken on this day directly affects the funding our school receives for the year ahead. More pupils enjoying a school meal on Census Day means more money for resources, activities, and experiences for all our children.

Please encourage your child to have a school meal on the day, even if they don't usually do so. Our kitchen team will be offering a special, child-friendly menu to make the day extra enjoyable. There is no need to book in advance, just let your child know to choose a school meal on the day. If you have any questions or concerns (including about dietary needs or Free School Meals eligibility), please contact the school office.

Thank you for your support. By encouraging your child to enjoy a school meal on Census Day, you'll be helping the school secure valuable funding that benefits every pupil.

21st May Census Day Menu

Chicken Nuggets
or
Vegetarian Hotdog
Served with
Beans
Sweetcorn
Potato Wedges

Chocolate Cookie

caterlink
feeding the imagination



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Book Sale

On Friday 22nd May 2026, the Year Six children will be running a second-hand children's book fair after school. The event will be in the KS2 Playground, weather permitting. All are welcome to come and grab some bargains!

We are also seeking donations of children's books you no longer need to sell at the event. Books in good used condition can be dropped off either at the school office (into the postbox in the lobby, or to Alcester Library during opening hours, between 11th-21st May.

This event is to raise money for the leaver celebrations, and is also part of the National Year of Reading (www.goallin.org.uk).





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NEARLY NEW CHILDREN'S BOOKS WANTED

Unwanted children's books in good condition are wanted for a book sale in aid of the St Nicholas Class of 2026 Leaver's Fund

Please only donate books you would be happy to buy yourself. Old books are welcomed but please ensure they are intact with no missing pages, or damage such as drawing or stains.

Donations can be dropped off between Monday 11 May - Thursday 21 May to:

St Nicholas School Reception
or Alcester Library
(during opening hours)



National
Year of
Reading
2026

Planet
Protectors
Sustainability
Week

We are excited to announce we are having a Planet Protectors Sustainability Week from 18th - 22nd May, this has been inspired by David Attenborough's 100th Birthday on Friday 8th May.



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18th - 22nd May 	On Monday we are kicking the week off with a no electricity day (apart from the kitchens, phones, and laptops for Studybugs / CPOMS!). On Tuesday, we will have our school water assembly from Severn Trent Water. On Wednesday: Animal print day – children have the option to come to school dressed as an animal or an explorer. If they don't wish to dress up, children can come to school with an animal print accessory which they can wear with their school uniform i.e. t-shirt, leggings, hair accessories, shoes etc On Friday, we will come together for a celebration where each year group will get to share the outcome of their activity.
Parent Survey	We'd really value your feedback. We are inviting you to take part in a short survey about parent and carer engagement at St Nicholas and across the Arden Forest Trust. Your views genuinely make a difference and help us continue to improve the experience for our children and families. To take part, please click here: https://edurio.com/teacher/poll/zVt7Rok0fKq67ZCfP3ufltnu3z The survey is anonymous and should take no more than 15 minutes to complete. It does need to be completed in one go and will remain open until 22nd May. Thank you in advance for taking the time to share your thoughts—we really appreciate it. If you have any questions, please do get in touch. With thanks, Mrs Newell, Mrs Allen and Mrs O'Hanlon



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Bags2School



The Friends of St Nicholas have organised a clothing & shoe collection with Bag2School for the morning drop-off on Wednesday 20th May 2026, which is an easy way to raise funds. The children will come with a Bag2School bag today.

Items can include adult and children's clothes, shoes (tied together please), belts, handbags and bags as well as jewellery, household linens and soft toys. There is no limit on the number of bags so if you are having a massive clear-out, we can accept multiple bags! **Note: they do not accept school or work uniform, soft toys, towels, bedding & curtains.**

Please note duvets, pillows and work or school uniform are not accepted.

Please do not drop any bags before Wednesday 20th May 2026.

Coming up next week

Reception

Class Photo – if you have yet to order please do so by Sunday 10th May for free delivery to school. Please see our Studybugs of 29th April for the codes to view and order your photo – a wonderful memory of your child's first year at school.

Reception Fair

We are really looking forward to our upcoming Reception Summer Fair on Wednesday 20th May 2026 and hope you can join us for a fun-filled afternoon! ⌚ Time: 2:00pm – 3:00pm As the school is now cashless, all payments for the fair will be made using our special "Bug Bucks" system.

How it works:

- Bug Bucks must be purchased in advance via ParentPay. <https://www.parentpay.com/>
- 1 Bug Buck = 50p. They need to be purchased in increments of £5.00. Select Quantity x 1 for 10 Bug Bucks (£5.00) Select Quantity x 2 for 20 Bug Bucks (£10.00) Select Quantity x 3 for 30 Bug Bucks (£15.00) Select Quantity x 4 for 40 Bug Bucks (£20.00) Select Quantity x 5 for 50 Bug Bucks (£25.00)
- These will be sent home with your child before the fair
- On the day, children will use their Bug Bucks at each stall



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- The deadline for Buck Buck sales is Friday 15th May 2026. You will not be able to purchase Bug Bucks, thereafter. You are welcome to purchase as many Bug Bucks as you wish, and you may also buy them for other family members.

Please note that:

- All purchases must be made through your child's ParentPay account in advance
- Unfortunately, Bug Bucks are non-refundable To help you plan, a poster is attached showing each stall and how many Bug Bucks are needed.

Additional information:

- All family members are very welcome to attend
- Due to space, pushchairs will need to be left outside the school office
- If you are unable to attend, another family member is welcome to come in your place
- If your child will be attending without a grown-up, please let us know in advance so we can ensure they are supported If you have any questions at all, please don't hesitate to ask. We look forward to seeing you there for a wonderful afternoon!

**Reception Fair**

Wednesday 20th May 2026
Join Us for Our Reception Fair!

We're raising funds to help provide even more wonderful opportunities and experiences for our children... **Everyone is welcome, we can't wait to see you there!**

Tattoos—1 buck
Adopt a cuddly toy—2 bucks
Tombola —2 bucks for 5 tickets
Guess how many gummy bears in the jar—1 buck
Crazy golf—1 buck
Lucky dip—1 buck
Your child's handmade craft—2 bucks
Guess the name of the bear—1 buck
Ring toss—1 buck for 5 rings
Pop the nose on the bear—1 buck
Bows, bling and beautiful things—1 buck each
Biscuits—1 buck each
Raffle—2 bucks a strip





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Year 1	
Year 2	
Year 3	
Year 4	
Year 5	
Year 6	w/c 11th May 2026 SATs week is here, and we couldn't be prouder of everything you've achieved already! You've worked so hard, shown resilience, curiosity and determination – now it's your chance to show what you know. Remember, these tests are just one tiny part of your amazing journey. They don't measure your creativity, your kindness, your sense of humour, or your courage – but we see those things in you every single day. So, over the weekend and each night this week: • Get plenty of sleep 🛌 • Eat a good breakfast 🍳 • Take some deep breaths 😊 • And always believe in yourself 🧘💎 You've got this – and we've got you. Do your best, be proud of yourself, and most of all... Dream Big and Shine Bright! We believe in you. Always. 🙌👉 With all our support and smiles, The St Nicholas Team Children should arrive at school promptly at 8.40 am, where they will be welcomed into the hall to enjoy a breakfast, provided for them by the school. The expectation is that your child is in school on the day of the tests, to ensure that they take each test on the day specified by the government. If there are any issues, please contact the school by 8.45 am, on the morning of the test. 15th May 2026 On Friday 15th May, to commemorate the end of SATs week, we have planned a board/card game morning. Please send your child in with an appropriate card or board game on this day, that they can play with their peers. In the afternoon, Year 6 will enjoy a picnic on the school field (weather permitting) or indoors, if the weather lets us down. On this day, children will be asked to bring in an item of party food to contribute towards a shared buffet, instead of their usual packed lunch/hot dinner. If preferred, children who are normally entitled to free school meals can still order a packed lunch, which the kitchen will prepare for them to eat



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outside with the others. We will ask the children to choose an item from a list provided this week, which they should then bring home on a slip.

w/c 18th May 2026

Week commencing the 18th May 2026, is sustainability week, in conjunction with David Attenborough's 100th birthday. Year 6 have been tasked with creating sustainable fashion using single-use plastic. Over the next couple of weeks, please save any single-use plastics you have at home and send your child in with these on Monday 18th, which they will then be using to create their sustainable fashion items.

Class Leavers Photo

Photo proofs with order codes went home with your child on 6th/7th May. If you would like to order please do so by Wednesday 20th May for free delivery to school.

Other news

Useful Links

Vacancies

We currently have no vacancies.



Diary Dates

We thought it would be helpful to share the diary dates for the whole year. Please note: they are subject to change

Summer

Date	Time	info
11.05.2026	All week	SATs week
20.05.2026	PM	Reception Summer Fair
20.05.2026	9.00 am	Bag2School collection
22.05.2026		Year 6 Book Sale
22.05.2026		Children break up
Half term break – 25.05.2026 to 29.05.2026		
01.06.2026	All day	Teacher Training day
08.06.2026	All week All week	Year 4 MTC all week Phonics screening year 1 and year 2 retakes Year 5 Bell Boating
09.06.2026	Am	Year 2 Church visit – world views Year 5 Bell Boating
16.06.2026		Year 1 Water Walk Year 5 Viking Day
23.06.2026		Sports Day
24.06.2026	All day	Year 6 PGL
25.06.2026	All day	Year 6 PGL
26.06.2026		Year 6 PGL Year 3 Fishing
30.06.2026		Reserved Sports Day Date
06.07.2026	All day	Redpoint Mobile Climbing Wall (Year 3 – 6) Year 4 Open Water Swimming
07.07.2026	Am	Year 6 Church visit – worldviews/truth Year 2 Trip to Brean
10.07.2026	All day	Reports out to families Leavers festival (provisional date)
13.07.2026		3J Heart of England
15.07.2026	4pm	Optional parents' consultations (families call office to book) 3L Heart of England
17.07.2026	AM	Leavers performance/awards
17.07.2026		Last Day of term
Break up for summer		
20.07.2026	All day	INSET day
21.09.2026	AM	Individual school photo's – All Years



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Warwickshire Libraries presents...

SATURDAY STORY ADVENTURES



Alcester Library
Saturday 30th May
3:30pm-5pm

FREE event - Book on Eventbrite

Come and join us for brand new, monthly sessions for children ages 6-12! We will have games, themed crafts and activities as well as designated book choosing and reading together time. May's theme is **Charlie and the Chocolate Factory**.

Scan to book your place



Supported by funding from
ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND



Warwickshire
County Council



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LEAVE OF ABSENCE DURING TERM TIME

UPDATED INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

The Supreme Court 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 law states a leave of absence may only be granted by a school if an application is made in advance and if it considers there are exceptional circumstances relating to the application.

Schools must judge each application individually considering the specific facts and circumstances and relevant background context behind each request.

A leave of absence is granted entirely at the school's discretion. **Generally, a need or desire for a holiday or other absence for the purpose of leisure and recreation would not constitute an exceptional circumstance.**

Where a leave of absence is granted, the school will determine the number of days a pupil can be absent from school.

When making an application for Leave of Absence 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. The school may also request further information on the application and supporting documentation where appropriate.

It is advised that if the resident parent has not received notification or a response regarding the leave of absence application, it is the parents' 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 is expected 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. 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.

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'.

All matters of unauthorised absence relating to a Leave of Absence will be referred to the Warwickshire Attendance Service, part of Warwickshire County Council. Penalty Notices are issued in accordance with Warwickshire County Council's Code of Conduct for Penalty Notices and in the first instance, as an alternative to prosecution proceedings.

The law relating to Penalty Notices changed with effect from 19 August 2024. Therefore, Penalty Notices issued for Leave of Absence taken from September 2024 will be issued in accordance with the updated legislation.



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- 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 – 4 in total).
 - First Leave of Absence offence: The Penalty Notice amount of £160 to be paid within 28 days, this is reduced to £80 each child if paid within 21 days.
 - Second Leave of Absence offence within a 3 year period (from the date of issue of the first penalty notice): The amount of £160 paid within 28 days. No reduced amount.
- Payment plans will not be offered and/or payments received outside of the 28 day period will not be accepted. Where a penalty notice expires unpaid the matter will be referred to Warwickshire County Council's Legal Services to consider criminal prosecution.
- Third Leave of Absence offence within a 3 year period (from the date of issue of the first penalty notice): A penalty notices will be not be issued and the matter will be referred to Warwickshire County Council's Legal Services to consider instigating criminal prosecution proceedings under S444 of Education Act 1996.

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



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Repair Cafe Alcester

Fix it for Spring

SHARPEN YOUR TOOLS
REPAIR BROKEN SPADE/FORK HANDLES
REFRESH YOUR BICYCLE
SPRING CLEAN YOUR ELECTRICAL CUPBOARD
PATCH UP YOUR OUTDOOR TEXTILES
FIX WOBBLY GARDEN CHAIRS
REPAIR BIRDHOUSES

THURSDAY 28TH MAY
2pm until 5pm

Eric Payne Community Centre
Alcester
B49 6AG

THE BIG FIX
2026



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**ALCESTER
COMMUNITY
ORCHARD BIOBLITZ**

DISCOVER THE WILDLIFE ON YOUR DOORSTEP

Date : 9th June 2026
Location : Alcester Community Orchard, Jubilee Fields B49 6AG
Time : drop in between 12pm – 2pm or 5pm – 7pm
(Allow 30 mins to take part)

**NO EXPERIENCE NECESSARY –
JUST CURIOSITY AND ENTHUSIASM!
EVERYTHING ELSE PROVIDED**

**HELP RECORD REAL WILDLIFE DATA AND LEARN FUN
FACTS ABOUT YOUR LOCAL ENVIRONMENT**

**JO FROM HAVEN 4 WILDLIFE WILL BE
THERE TO GUIDE YOU AND HELP COLLECT THE DATA**
PLEASE WEAR SUITABLE CLOTHING AND FOOTWEAR



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CLIMATE AND NATURE FAMILY DAY

9th June 3pm - 6pm @ Eric Payne Community

Centre



MEET LOCAL GROUPS MAKING A DIFFERENCE
EASY IDEAS TO GO GREENER AT HOME
FRIENDLY EXPERTS WITH HELPFUL TIPS
MAP YOUR FUTURE WALL - SHARE YOUR IDEAS
ENERGY SAVING ADVICE & EASY ECO SWAPS
CREATE YOUR OWN SAUSAGE DOG DRAUGHT EXCLUDER
HOME COMPOSTING WORKSHOP WITH DISCOUNTED HOT
AND COLD COMPOSTING BINS

<https://www.greatbiggreenweek.com>





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WHITSUN HALF

TERM MULTI SPORTS CLUB



VENUE: ST NICHOLAS C of E PRIMARY

DATES: TUES 26TH, WED 27TH, Thurs 28TH May

TIME: **DROP OFF** 8.45am – 9 am

PICK UP 3pm – 3.15pm

COST: £19 per day

£10 for half a day 9am-12pm or 12pm-3.15pm

Limited spaces

Payment can be made by cash or bank transfer, please ask for details.

Contact Dave Geden 07990972762 or davidgeden@hotmail.co.uk



Children are required to wear suitable clothing for a wide range of sports. Children may bring football boots and shin pads as football will be one of the sports played. Children are required to bring packed lunch and drinks to the course. **PLEASE DO NOT SEND ANY FOOD CONTAINING NUTS.**

Aims are to introduce, adapt and improve skills in a wide range of Sports e.g. Football, Tennis, Basketball, Cricket, Hockey, Tag rugby, Netball, Archery, Kan Jam and many more. With the emphasis on fun and participation.



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Join us for a buzzing
day of family fun
celebrating pollinators
and nature!

BEE FESTIVAL

free family event
(car parking charges may apply)

CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES

BEE BOMBS

BUILD A BEE B&B

BEE-AUTIFUL FACE PAINTING

GARDEN TOURS (LIMITED SPACES)

LIVE MUSIC

HONEY THEMED TREATS

PLANTS FOR SALE

FREE WILDFLOWER SEEDS

INSECT HUNT TRAIL

Saturday 30th May

10am until 2pm

Coughton Court,

Alcester, B49 5JA



<https://www.alcester-tc.gov.uk/information/natural-environment/>