

St Nicholas School Newsletter

June 2022

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St. Nicholas School Canterbury

Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome back to the last term of the academic year and what is my final term as headteacher at St Nicholas. I am retiring after having spent 27 years here with 22 of them as the headteacher.

Throughout those many years I have met many children, parents and carers and I want to take this opportunity to thank you all for the support you have given to the school and to myself. The years seem to have flown by. My goal throughout all of this time has been to establish a school that is right for all the learners who come in through the door and that is at the heart of the local community. I have been fortunate to have many dedicated and talented people working alongside me who have helped me to realise that aim.

The school is now a lot larger than the one I joined all those years ago, it meets the needs of a wider range of children with special educational needs and has many more resources and facilities. The school is fully engaged with the local community – sharing the sites of six Canterbury schools and the college. It is well set up for the challenges of the future and I am delighted that the governors appointed Richard to succeed me. I have met with him now a number of times and have been impressed by his openness, knowledge and commitment. I am sure he will be in contact with you shortly to introduce himself further.

I look forward to seeing you at this year's summer events and wish you well for the future.

Best wishes

Daniel

Wellbeing Information

Insight



Get support

The first step towards getting help can feel the biggest, it's normal to feel nervous – so we want to make this as easy as possible.

Our self-referral process

All our services accept self-referrals, so you do not have to go through your GP or other healthcare professional. You do need to be registered with a local GP practice before you can access support with us.

You can self-refer through our easy and secure online chat.

If you have any questions or concerns about accessing our service, or would like any help using the online chat, then please let us know.

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Family Focused Employment Support

Employment
Support Hub

THE EDUCATION
PEOPLE

Are you aware of any families, with an unemployed adult in the home, who would benefit from family support to overcome the general challenges that they are facing? We know that barriers to employment come in many different forms and we need to address the wide range of issues a family may be experiencing before they can even consider their steps to employment. We know that some families do not meet the criteria for statutory support, or have just finished a period of support, but would benefit from a little extra help.

Did you know that, in partnership with The Education People and Kent County Council, we now have a Family Focused Employment Support Service as part of the Employment Support Hub for Canterbury and Thanet? Through this, Salus are able to work with whole families to address wide ranging issues that they may be facing. This could include debt management, housing, mental health, managing boundaries or any other challenge that arises for a family

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Focus on Canterbury Academy Satellite Classes

Each newsletter will focus on a class. Please use our website to see up to date news on your individual classes.

Eco Garden



The Canterbury Satellite Students have been working on an Eco Garden this year. The idea was to reuse materials that have been thrown away to create an area for growing plants, encouraging wildlife and as an outdoor space for socialising too.

We have built two raised keyhole gardens from stones that were thrown into a skip on site and reused card, stick and shredded paper to line it. We have three composters for our daily food waste which is great for banana peels, grass clippings and tea bags. We thank the school for purchasing a willow dome which is providing a wonderful shaded area and quiet space, and also for the recycled benches.

A water tight box was submerged to make a pond which has a variety of insect life in it, and we scoured the site looking for pallets and old wood for our bug house. We have seen so many birds attracted to some feeders that were being thrown out. We have seen over 15 types of birds in the garden this year. After planting the sunflower seeds we noticed a molehill or two and realised moles love slugs, worms and sunflower seeds! Each week we devote an hour of time to eco club and students have enjoyed building, cutting, digging and planting this sustainable space which the whole block can enjoy. This was most evident when we hosted the Jubilee picnic and hung a plaque about our apple tree, which we planted for the occasion

Turner Gallery

Whitstable Museum



S3A have been looking at expeditions this term and enjoying reading Christophe's story. We have explored Rwanda and other African nations and visited the Turner Gallery to see the work of Larry Achiampong. We took the train to Margate and really liked seeing some pictures by Turner and spending time in the gaming room and making some animations.

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We have been to Whitstable museum and saw the Invicta and explored the town too. Our work on forces in science has seen us making parachutes and testing these out to explore gravity and air resistance.

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Careers Education



Learning about the company



The cheeseboard!



Lily gives her application

In May year 11 satellite classes S5A & B went to visit Macknades Fine Foods, who have been a wonderful partner employer for us this year. Pupils were greeted with a drink and a taster platter of amazing cheeses and fruits to try. The fruits were all rare and for most of us the first time we'd tasted them!

Kelly the HR manager gave us a guided tour of the shop and all the areas behind the scenes; even the meat freezers for those who didn't mind the cold. Lily, who lives near the shop, gave Kelly an application for work experience over the summer. We hope more classes will be able to visit the shop next year.

Thanks Kelly and Macknade for a tasty and memorable welcome.

Important Dates

Tuesday 21 June and 5 July - Whole School Transition mornings

22 -24 June - Duke of Edinburgh Silver Award

Tuesday 28 June - Secondary Sports Day

Wednesday 29 June - Primary Sports Day

Thursday 30 June - Sensory Sports Day

6 July 2022 - Year 9 immunisations (Spires Academy satellite)

11 – 15 July - Residential Trip Centre Parcs

ACADEMIC YEAR 2021-22

Term 6

Start: Monday 6 June 2022

Finish: Thursday 21 July 2022 at 2 pm

ACADEMIC YEAR 2022 - 23

Term 1

Staff Development Days:

Thursday 1 and Friday 2 September 2022

Start: Monday 5 September 2022

Finish: Friday 21 October 2022

Term 2

Staff Development Day:

Monday 31 October 2022

Start: Tuesday 1 November 2022

Finish: Friday 16 December 2022 at 2 pm



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