



St Nicholas^{CE (VC)} First School

learning and believing, growing and achieving

St. Nicholas CE(VC)
First School, Codsall
Belvide Gardens
Codsall
Wolverhampton
WV8 1AN

Friday 17th September 2016

Dear Parents

The first full week for all children back in school has seemed to whizz by and we have already enjoyed some happy, learning filled days together. We hope that the children are coming home and telling you a little about their new classes and experiences and are feeling confident in their new classrooms and with their new teachers.

It has been lovely getting to know some of our new starters this week, you really wouldn't believe our Nursery children are new to school they have settled very well. Thank you to all of our EYFS parents for helping the children to come into school so happily in the mornings!

I have been overwhelmed by the responses I received from last week's newsletter in respect of accessing some support from the Fire Brigade, a big thank you to all who have been able to help!

Next week we will enjoy our first Inspiration Day for the term to introduce and launch the children's new topics. These will be based around:

Nursery	Ourselves
Reception	Ourselves
Year 1	All About Me (Science/Art and Geography based)
Year 2	Africa (as part of a round the world Geography based topic)
Year 3	The Romans
Year 4	WW2

Look out in next week's newsletter for pics and information showing some of the lovely activities children enjoyed and learning that took place.

May I draw your attention to the letter that came out earlier in the week in response to parent feedback at the end of term about assessment. Mr Price and I will be leading two workshops on Mon 19th September at 2.30pm and again at 6pm in the school hall for anyone who wants to find out more about the national and St Nicholas approach to assessment. We hope these sessions will be informative and help parents to understand their child's progress and achievements.

Wishing you all a lovely weekend. I am fast realising that a working parent's weekend passes by in a blink of an eye with lots of family time and ever mounting housework! 😊
Best wishes

Miss Parker

Email: headteacher@st-nicholas.staffs.sch.uk
Enquiries: 01902 842998
Web: st-nicholas.staffs.sch.uk

Holidays in Term Time

As you know, the Department for Education amended key legislation relating to attendance in September 2013. This means that holidays in term time can no longer be authorised. As Headteacher, I no longer have the authority to grant any leave of absence during term time unless there are exceptional circumstances. I am afraid that The Government do not classify family holidays as exceptional. Therefore, please be aware that any period of leave taken will constitute an unauthorised absence, and will be recorded as such on the school's official register. A fixed penalty notice may then be issued by the Local Authority in accordance with the Education Act 1996 (section 444)



Pupil Premium

All children in Reception and KS1 (Year 1 and Year 2) are entitled to Free School Meals. However, it is important that families who previously qualified for Free School Meals still apply as school receives additional funding which will benefit your child in school. Please can we encourage any parents who are new to St Nicholas CE VC First School and are in receipt of the following benefits to apply.

The criteria for qualifying would be to be in receipt of one of the following:

Income Support

Income based Job Seekers Allowance

Income based Employment and Support Allowance

Child tax credit and no working tax credit with a household income of less than £16,190

Universal Credit

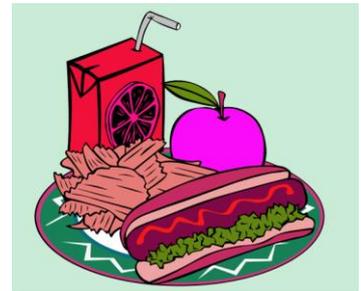
The 'Guarantee' element of State Pension Credit

Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999

For more information visit:
www.staffordshire.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals
or email freeschoolmeals@staffordshire.gov.uk

Early Years Pupil Premium

(Nursery) Parents in receipt of the above benefits are also eligible to apply for additional funding to support their child in Early Years. For an application form please contact the school office. Alternatively contact Miss Bolton in person or by email at senco@st-nicholas.staffs.sch.uk



Joshua
1:7 Be
strong
and very
courageous. Be
careful to obey
all the law my
servant Moses
gave you; do
not turn from it
to the right or
to the left, that
you may be
successful
wherever you
go.

Superstars of the week!

Class/Award	Name	Reason
N1	Jackson Smart	For settling into Nursery really well and having ago at the new activities.
N2	Ruby Rhodes	For settling in beautifully to Nursery and being so polite and kind to her new friends and teachers.
RB	Sofia Bishop	For a fantastic start in Reception and being keen to have a go in writing.
RP	William Hayward	For a wonderful start in Reception being a kind and helpful member of the class!
1M	Amy Thompson	For lovely story writing this week.
1R	Arjan Bassi	For trying so hard in all his lessons and showing a very mature attitude.
2A	Summer Dubberley-Potts	For showing an enthusiastic attitude towards our topic and for making a super start to Year 2.
2S	Bradley Stabler	For making an excellent start to Year 2 and sharing his topic knowledge.
3HW	Mia Folley	For a super start to St Nics and for showing us her beautiful handwriting.
3P	Katie Wellman	For making a fantastic start to her new school!
4C	Isaac Giles	For an engaged and enthusiastic attitude to all lessons, particularly those in relation to WW2.
4S	Mi'kael Parasalal	For a mature approach and hard work across all subjects.
Sportsperson of the week	Reginald Myers	For excellent effort and interest in his outdoor PE lesson this week!



Wedding Bells!

A special congratulations to Miss Parker from Year 2, who last weekend became Mrs Sparrow. Mrs Sparrow has been getting used to being known by her name this week in school, although it still feels a little bit strange for everyone. Mrs Sparrow looked absolutely radiant in her dress as did our very own Mrs Jackson her bridesmaid/maid of honour. We wish Mr and Mrs Sparrow all the very best for a long and happy future. See pic below!

Reminder – our first Toddler Group starts next week on Friday 23rd September at 9am in the school hall. All welcome.

Mrs Sparrow would like to thank all the parents who have extended their congratulations and warm wishes to her this week.



Mr and Mrs Sparrow cut their cake



Don't both Mrs Sparrow and Mrs Jackson look stunning?

Reminder on School Policy regarding sickness

This week we have had a small number of children who have been affected by sickness in school. Sometimes this is unavoidable, but other times this can be prevented. School and indeed Staffordshire Policy is that children in Nursery, Reception and KS1 remain away from school following an episode of sickness for 48 hours. KS2 children must remain away from school for 24 hours. Following this policy will hopefully reduce/limit the spread of sickness which is inevitable when younger children are all in class, particularly in the warmer weather. We of course will play our part by encouraging vigilance with hand washing and hygiene.

Healthy Snack

May I remind parents that children must **only** bring healthy items to school for consumption at playtimes. Staff are monitoring the playground and identifying where children are bringing very sugary or inappropriate items. We will be asking children to save these for at home and offer the fruit which is provided as an alternative. Please do not put us in the position that we have to do this and only send in suitable healthy snacks. By unhealthy items we mean things such as Mars Bars, packets of Haribo, excessively large packets of crisps and sweets. These items can cause some children to struggle when they return to class as they are too excited/have a slump and find it difficult to settle. Snack is intended to sustain children through to lunch so that they can concentrate on learning. Please speak to your child's class teacher if you need advice as to what should be sent in to school. Thanks in advance for your help with this.

**WE ARE
MACMILLAN.
CANCER SUPPORT**



One of our parents, Mrs Dubberley-Potts will be organising a World's Biggest Coffee Morning in aid of Macmillan, **although we will be doing this in the afternoon ☺**, on **Friday 30th September at 2pm**. We would ask any families that are able to support this (whether they can come to the event itself or not) by donating cakes.

If you are able to donate, please send these in to school with your children on the morning of Friday 30th September. This event is for adults (although those with little ones at home are welcome to bring them along) and we hope that it may be of interest to some of you. It may be a nice opportunity for some of the parents who are new to school to come and get to know others over a cuppa and cake too.

We think you will agree this is a worthwhile cause. Extended family are welcome to come along too. Any parents who wish to come along should come to the gate at the rear of the hall, where a member of staff will be on hand to let you through to the hall.

Should we be left with too many cakes at the end of the afternoon, we may choose to offer them for donations on the main playground.

Thank you for your support.

