



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



6th January 2017

Dear Parents

Happy New Year from all at St Nicholas.! We hope you had a lovely Christmas, we have enjoyed seeing the children back this week, full of excitement, ready to tell us about their visit from Father Christmas. You will be glad to know that Jingle the St Nicholas elf has returned to the North Pole now and is ready for some rest and recuperation along with Santa and his reindeer!

The Spring Term is always a very busy one for us in school and although a short one, it is a time where we often see the children making the most progress, as they are settled in to classes and maturing to understand the demands of their curriculum and the teacher's expectation. We look forward to sharing your child's progress with you later in the term at our Parent's Evening.

Next Monday (9th) as you may recall from communications in December is our Inspiration Day. Please see below for information about what your child will need:

Nursery and Reception - Children will be learning through traditional tales. They may like to dress up as their favourite fairy-tale character (we know this means that they will choose the less traditional Buzz Lightyear type characters – please don't worry this is fine too! 😊)

Year 1 – Children will be learning about what it means to be British next term and we invite them to wear red, white and blue for their inspiration day. Please ensure that whatever they wear is warm enough for the Winter weather we can expect in January.

Year 2 - Year 2 will start the New Year setting sail across the great oceans of the world in our new topic. We will be learning about the some of the great sea explorers from the past, the history of boats and ships, as well as learning about the creatures living beneath the surface of the sea. We would like the children to dress as either sailors (not pirates) or divers or fishermen or mermaids or even a sea creature! (Please do not go to the expense of buying a costume. The things the children already have or make with a little imagination make the best costumes.)

Year 3 – Children will be wearing Viking attire for their visit from a "real life" Viking later in the term. If children have these ready already they may like to wear them on inspiration day. Alternatively they could wear a Viking helmet or bring in a shield etc. Please do not buy things especially, often hand/homemade items are the best. Children will also need to bring please a change of clothing (outdoor, warm clothes – as per Muddy Mondays letter) to take part in their Forest School session learning about wattle and daub and the Vikings in a very practical way

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Year 4 – Children will be learning about Ancient Greece next term and are invited to dress in sports clothes (Olympic Games) on their inspiration day. Should children have any interesting artefacts, books etc. again please feel free to send them in to school for children to share and discuss.

Have a great weekend,

Best wishes
Miss J Parker
Head Teacher

Superstars of the week!

Class/Award	Name	Reason
N1	Ava Vazquez	For telling her friends all about her Christmas presents confidently during circle time!
N2	Heidi Powell	For painting a lovely picture of a penguin!
RB	Jacob Harris	For such a settled start back to school, good listening and excellent following instructions!
RP	Sophie Jones	For her eagerness to learn and try her best. Well done Sophie!
1M	Maisie Younger	For making fantastic progress in her reading and phonics!
1R	Hannah Hassell	For excellent Literacy work retelling traditional tales. Well done Hannah!
2A	Charlie Tunnicliffe	For always making contributions in all lessons! He is such a star!
2S	Freya Parkes	For being such a hard worker all of the time and producing her very best work!
3HW	Sophie Robinson	For excellent understanding and use of key multiplication facts to find unknown related facts.
3W	Maisie Colyer	For concentrating hard, putting a lot of effort into her work and always being ready!
4C	Tyler Chisholm	For answering lots of questions about Greek myths and being able to retell the main events from the Icarus myth!
4S	Lily Lewis	For super concentration and hard work in Maths this week, especially rounding decimals.
Sportsperson of the week	Dori Fear	For being a fabulous team leader in her PE lesson this week, leading by example!

Dates for the term so far....

NB some dates may be subject to change due to circumstances that may be beyond our control, however where this is the case we will always try to give you maximum notice possible. The weekly school diary dates provide the most up-to-date dates and times for you.

Mon 9 th January	Inspiration Day
Wed 11 th January 6pm-7pm	KS1 and KS2 Maths Parent Workshop delivered by Lynda Johnson Maths Consultant (letters sent home about this)
w/b Mon 16 th January Bible Story Week	Whole school project – parents invited to join in too – see later in newsletter for information about this.
Tues 17 th January	First Year 3 Swimming lesson
Wed 18 th January	Year 3 Viking Workshop
Thurs 19 th January	6.30pm Theatre Company Performance of Aladdin and Codsall Community High School (tickets available on Parent Pay)
Mon 23 rd January 3.30-5.30pm	R-Y4 PTFA Film Night
Tues 24 th January 3.30-4.30pm	St Nics @ St Nics – Jesus Gets Lost
Wed 25 th January	PTFA Meeting 7.30pm Planning for Easter
Fri 27 th January	Big Read
Tues 31 st January 2.30-3.30pm 6-7pm	Y2 KS1 SATs Parent Meetings
Mon 6 th February 4-7pm	Parents Evening
Tues 7 th February 4-7pm	
Thurs 9 th February 3.45pm	Cross Country Competition Y2-4 at St Nics
Fri 10 th February 5-6pm	PTFA Reception Slumber Party
Fri 17 th February	Big Read
Mon 27 th February	Break up for half term
Tues 28 th February 3.30-4.30pm	School reopens after half term
Mon 6 th March – Fri 10 th March	St Nics @ St Nics – lent
Tues 14 th March 6.30-7.30pm	Book Fair in school
Wed 15 th March 2.30pm	Codsall High Dance Show (chosen children involved)
Mon 20 th March 2pm	Year 3 Viking Assembly for parents
Tues 21 st March 2pm	Y1 Easter Performance
Tues 28 th March 3.30-4.30pm	KS2 Tag Rugby Competition @ Perton First (invited children)
Wed 29 th March 3.45pm	St Nics @ St Nics - Zacchaeus
Fri 31 st March	St Nics Vs St Chad's Away
Mon 3 rd April	Big Read
Tues 4 th April	St Nics Got Talent 6pm
Fri 7 th April	Experience Easter Y3
	Easter Service
	End of term break up for Easter holidays

School Leaders

For the Spring Term and beyond we will be working slightly different in school with regards to leadership. Mrs Robb will become Assistant Head Teacher over KS1 and KS2 and Miss Pugh the same for the EYFS phase (Nursery and Reception), with responsibility for managing and leading the school's wraparound care facility on behalf of governors. Miss Bolton is not to be forgotten, her new title of Inclusion Manager will encompass support for Special Educational Needs as well as co-ordination and support for children who are in receipt of Pupil Premium Funding. If you feel your child may meet the eligibility criteria to access this valuable funding please do have a chat with her or myself.

Bible Story Week – w/b 16th January 2017

We have decided that we would like to develop the children's knowledge and understanding of the stories from within The Bible. Many children will have a good awareness of a wide range of the more popular, well known stories but we would like them to think more about the meaning of the story and what it tells them. Using the work the children produce we would like to put together a large display sharing why they like a story and the significance of it to them. E.g I love the story of David and Goliath because it teaches me about being brave when I might feel scared or I enjoy the story of Zacchaeus in the tree as it teaches me that Jesus loved everyone, even people that were unpopular. We would of course love to have some illustrations to accompany your child's writing. Finally could we ask that those parents that are able or willing, also share their favourite story and why to go on display too. Some of the school staff will also do so, teaching the children that the stories of The Bible have significance to children and adults.

If any parents belong to a different faith, we are equally happy to share you and your child's favourite story from your Holy Book too in our display. I will attach an alternative sheet for you to use on the school website.

This activity is open to children in all year groups, where little ones may participate but may not have the writing skills yet, please let them have a go at a picture and writing and then scribe what they tell you below if you wish to do so. This activity will also be placed out in the continuous provision areas of Nursery and Reception classrooms for children to access with their teachers.

Congratulations to Mrs Stevens who announced that she is expecting a new baby to join her family in June! We are delighted to share in her special news and I am sure parents, as well as staff will wish her well.

