



**St Nicholas**<sup>CE (VC)</sup>  
**First School**

learning and believing, growing and achieving

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

**Friday 9<sup>th</sup> September 2016**

Dear Parents

Thank you for supporting the children to ensure that they have had such a lovely return to school this week. As usual the children have returned looking smart and well rested in their uniforms. It is always a marvel to see how much the children can grow and change in the 6 weeks holidays and I am delighted to say that the children have risen to the challenges of their new classes with great ease.

I have enjoyed seeing some of the children in their uniform emblazoned with the new school logo. We hope you like it as much as we do. The thinking behind the design was that we wanted a tree image to represent the growth from Early Years to flourishing Year 4 pupil, then feeding into the more established tree design of Codsall Middle School, we also wanted to ensure the church school status was at the heart, embedded in the design with the Christian symbol of the cross. It took many meetings and discussions before we were happy with the final design and think this embodies our vision for St Nicholas CE VC First School.

It has been lovely this week meeting some of our newest children who have joined us in Nursery and Reception, as well as the older children who have joined later on in school. We hope that they quickly feel part of the school community and would ask that they do not hesitate to come in to school and ask any questions they may have if they are unsure about any aspect of their child's education.

Email: [headteacher@st-nicholas.staffs.sch.uk](mailto:headteacher@st-nicholas.staffs.sch.uk)  
Enquiries: 01902 842998  
Web: [st-nicholas.staffs.sch.uk](http://st-nicholas.staffs.sch.uk)

This term we have lots of exciting learning opportunities planned for you and your children to get involved in. We are keen to invite you in as much as possible to enjoy and celebrate your child's achievements. Please see diary dates later on in the newsletter for examples of events organised to date. We have been working hard to develop the range of activities and events available to you, as usual providing adult focused events within the school day, but also early in the evening, in order to try and accommodate our working parents, as well as those with limited childcare availability in the evenings.

We will continue to prioritise good communication with you and welcome any suggestions as to how this can be improved further. The key hub for information will continue to be the school website so please do refer there. If anyone does not have internet access either on a smart phone, tablet or computer please make this known as we want to ensure access to information is equally accessible to all.



Wishing you all a happy weekend. I am sure you will have some tired children this evening after their first week back!

Best wishes

Miss J Parker

### **Messages from Mrs Currall and Mrs Richards in our school office**

Where possible can we ask that parents bring any forgotten items in to school such as lunch boxes or coats etc before 10am to allow us to get

items such as snack and lunch to children before their break times, as well as settle down to our administrative work, after the initial drop off at school period.

### **Parent Pay**

New parents please look out for login information that has come out to you and where possible login to your accounts as soon as possible to alleviate the frustration of lost passwords etc. If any parents have difficulty in logging on or accessing their account, please contact either of our ladies in the office who will be able to guide you through this process.

### **PTFA**

Thank you to our PTFA members who organised our tea and tissues session for new parents in the hall today. We hope those that came along found it useful.

The PTFA AGM has been arranged for **Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> September** in Mr Price's Classroom (3P) and anyone wishing to attend should come into school via the main school office entrance where they will be shown down to 3P. Without our PTFA we would not have some of the wonderful events that we share as a community, not to mention the super resources and activities that the funds raised provide for us. As usual anyone is welcome to attend and we greatly encourage new parents to school to attend, as this is a great way to make friends and get to know what is going on in school.

### **Tiddlers and Toddlers Every Friday**

After the success of last year's sessions we have organised the school timetable to allow parents to attend Toddler Group on a more frequent, weekly basis. Our first session will take place on Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> September, at a

cost of £1.50 a week. Childminders are welcome to come along also with the children they work with. Please see the school website for more information in the news section about this.

**A Super Special Mention** to Isabel Preston who started her first day in Year 4 with a very grown up suggestion about organisation of school toilets. Isabel identified an issue and came to school with a letter for Miss Parker with ideas as to how a problem might be solved. This positive attitude, problem solving mindset and excellent communication shows that she is going to be a much valued member of our Year 4 group! Thank you and well done to Isabel from Miss Parker, Mrs Swan and Miss Cranston.

### **999 Emergency Services Week**

As a special project this half term (week beginning 17<sup>th</sup> October) we will be devoting much of our learning to teaching children valuable life skills linked to the Emergency Services. As part of this we will be inviting call operators from West Midlands Ambulance Service to come in to school and model and role play making a 999 call with the children. Even our youngest children need to know the special number to ring and how they can help in a time of emergency. Children in Year 1-4 will receive an input from trained paramedics (including Mrs Spittle, one of our Year 2 parents), on resuscitation and the recovery position, again invaluable skills that we all should be aware of. If this wasn't exciting enough, the children will also have a visit and an opportunity to explore an ambulance.

In addition to this we will be visited by the Police Service who will deliver sessions with children about crime and justice, helping children understand the difference between right and wrong and why we have rules. We will also build in some work on internet safety, cyber bullying and stranger danger, knowledge and understanding which we feel will equip our

children for the world they live in today. I will be contacting the Fire Service in due course to get them involved also in our project. If anybody has any contacts or works for the Fire Brigade and can help us with this, please do get in touch.

All of this work will be carried out in an enabling and empowering capacity and not in any way to frighten children. We hope you will agree that these life skills will be of benefit to your children too!

### **Parking**

Parking has been brought to my attention this week, particularly on the corner of Belvide Gardens and Chillington Drive. This is obviously dangerous for pedestrians and other road users and will be being monitored by PCSOs over the next few weeks, following our recent planning meeting. Please try to ensure you park considerately and safely. We do expect children to be on time to school, however if you really are running late, we would prefer you drive and park so as to ensure everyone arrives safely to school even if a few minutes late, than to cause yourself or others to have an accident. Thank you for your help with this!

### **Healthy Eating**

As you will recall last term I wrote to you about the change to snack arrangements. We no longer offer hot snack at playtimes and children in KS1 are encouraged to eat the free fruit provided by the government or bring in healthy snacks (no sweets, chocolate bars or crisps please) to sustain them through until lunchtime.

**Can we also ask please that children only bring in sweets to share with their classmates when it is a birthday please.** This week we have been inundated with sweets from holidays and start of term sweets in some classes in school and whilst this is incredibly generous and kind of those that

bring them, it is sometimes causing difficulties for some of our families in ensuring their children make healthy choices. If children only bring sweets in for birthdays this will restrict the consumption of sugary foods somewhat without removing the tradition of sharing your special day with a treat for everyone.



**Just a few pictures of our first week back at school!**



## **Dates for the half term**

**Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> September** – Y2 Forest School Afternoon (every Thursday thereafter)

**Monday 19<sup>th</sup> September** – Inspiration Day (any information needed will be communicated by your child's teacher separately, no information means children come to school in uniform as usual)

**2.30-3.30pm** Parent Assessment Workshop

**6-7.00pm** – Parent Assessment Workshop

**Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> September 9.15am-10.30am** Tiddlers and Toddlers £1.50

**Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> September 3.30pm -4.30pm** St Nics@St Nics

**Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> September 3.40pm** St Nics V Sandown at home (Football)

**Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> October**

**2.15-3.15pm** EYFS and KS1 Parent Phonics Meeting

**6.00-7.00pm** EYFS and KS1 Parent Phonics Meeting

**Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> October**

**9.30am-11.00am** Morning Nursery Family Workshop

**2.00pm – 3.30pm** Afternoon Nursery Family Workshop

**Monday 10<sup>th</sup> October**

**10.00am-11.15am** Reception Family Tree Parent and Child Session (RB families)

**2.00pm-3.15am** Reception Family Tree Parent and Child Session (RP families)

**Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> October 10am** Harvest Festival Service Y1-4 children and their families

**Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> October** – Y4 Trip to RAF Cosford

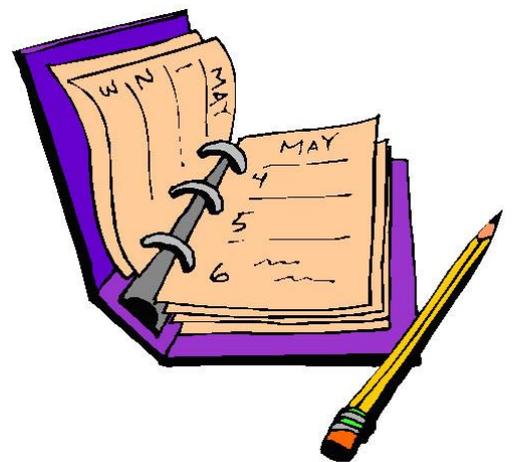
**Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> October 1.00-3.30pm** Basketball tournament at St Christopher's

**Monday 17<sup>th</sup> October 4.00-7.00pm** Parents evening in School Hall (separate letter to come out)

**Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> October 4.00-7.00pm** Parents evening in School Hall (separate letter to come out)

**Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> October** – Children break up for half term

**Friday 21<sup>st</sup> October** – Teachers in school for training day



*Please note dates can also be accessed on the school website in the calendar section. Whilst we will always endeavour not to, at times it may be necessary to change dates due to circumstances outside of our control, where this is the case we will always notify you, providing as much notice as we are able to.*