



St Nicholas Church School

School Newsletter

8th March 2024 Term 4 Newsletter 3

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you to all of you who managed to attend the Mother's & Carers Service today. It was a really lovely way to end the week and all the children performed with great confidence and showed so much pride in their work. It always makes us smile when we hear why the younger children appreciate their mothers and carers so much—some of the reasons given are very sweet!

This week we also celebrated World Book Day! It's a great time to immerse children in books and reading and for them to talk about the authors they love and who inspire them. We were impressed at the range of books being read and how the children related to the characters. We are so close to the relaunch of the library and hopefully this will inspire the children even more. As always, there were some truly remarkable costumes and a big well done to those who got dressed up. We know the pressure this can put on parents so we will always make sure there is no obligation to do so.

Year 5 had a very interesting week, with a visit to Hinkley Point Nuclear Power Station. This was part of their topic on, "Where does our energy come from?" This was a really unique experience as it's not often you get to visit a nuclear site—it took a lot of effort from staff to sort all the security clearances! The children were brilliant in asking probing questions to further their understanding of nuclear power and it's place in our energy supply. The tour guides were impressed with how much they wanted to find out. Well done for being great ambassadors for our school Year 5!

Next week we are busy with parents' evenings so please book in an appointment if you haven't already done so. The teachers will be keen to share with you where your children are on their learning journey.

Have a great weekend!

Mr Low & Mrs Biss.



FEEDBACK FRIDAY

Last week's question got a bit wet in the rain so we've revisited it this week:

All parents and carers of children on the SEND register are offered termly meetings. Have you attended your meetings? Do you have any feedback about the SEND offer in school?

Lots of good feedback today.

Some people said they have not been offered SEND meetings yet. All SEND parents have been offered meetings with their class teachers but not all have been taken up. If you have missed a meeting or need to re-book, please do speak to the class teacher at pick up or send a message via the school office.

Some people felt more SEND support staff were needed in the mainstream school. We are blessed with a very experienced team of support staff and interestingly, we have one of the highest numbers of support staff in the whole of the BWMAT schools! Some schools in the local area don't use any TA's at all. The latest research by the Education Endowment Fund suggests that quality first teaching by the class teacher has the most impact on outcomes for children, and group work with a TA is not always as effective in supporting children to make accelerated progress. We are currently reviewing how our amazing TA's are deployed to ensure they are having the biggest impact possible.

One person asked about the availability of meetings with the SENCO. We are able to offer this and Mrs Crossen works Tuesday -Thursday if you have a specific issue you need to raise. If you wish to book a meeting please contact the school office or speak to Mrs Crossen as she is outside every morning she works. However, all questions relating to teaching and learning should go through the class teacher in the first instance.

One person has made clear that they don't find the SEND provision maps very accessible. We agree that there are some improvements that could be made here and we are investigating with the ICT team how to make this document more manageable for parents.

I feel my child's report was well written and I am pleased with the progress they have made since the last SEND meeting.

A couple of other issues raised today:

Driving on the school site—a number of families have permission to drive on to the site. This may be for a range of medical or SEND needs that have been arranged with the school as part of a plan for a child. These are reviewed termly.

Parents' Evening late slots— we know ourselves how tricky it can be for working parents to get to parents evening, especially with limited late slots. If there is no availability in late slots this time around, please speak to the class teacher about booking a different day and arranging a time that suits you. But please note—it is not possible to offer slots at a time when school would normally be closed.

Celebration Awards—some parents have asked how children achieve awards. Staff award the Wizard Writing Award for great writing; Maths Magician for super maths; Oracy and Reading for great speaking and reading and Star for demonstrating our school values. Children are awarded based on their effort in these areas and do not have to meet a certain standard. Staff keep a log of the awards given to children.

 Our Peg Award Winners 					
Red	Yellow	Pink	Green	Orange	Purple
Thomas B Jake C Carter H	Jack G Finn R George W Oscar W	Sharusha R Ella T Ronny DB Harrison G De'Alla N Harrison P Paige S	Elsie T	Freddie B Harry B	

Time to Talk

Cam	Do you know one more than and 1 less than any number within ten?
Somer	Can you name the months of the year in order?
Dart	Explain what you have been learning in maths this week.
Avon	What does 'invertebrate' mean?
Mells	Tell your grown-up a kenning and see if they can guess what it is about.
Yeo	Tell your grown-up all about your favourite parts of our trip to Hinkley Point.
Hartlake	Can you recount the instructions you wrote for wizard writing?
Wellow	Talk about why your carers are special to you.
Midford	Explain how you created your wonderful flowers for your special people.

Attendance

Cam	99.2%
Somer	93.8%
Dart	92%
Avon	96.3%
Mells	96.8%
Yeo	98.8%
Hartlake	92.1%
Midford	87.5%
Wellow	96.7%
Overall attendance is: 95.3%	

Assemblies and Celebrations

We love welcoming everyone to assemblies, especially younger siblings but please can we remind parents to quickly pop outside if their younger child is disturbing the assembly, especially when the children are speaking. This is so all parents are able to hear their child speak and celebrate their achievements in the assemblies. You are welcome to pop in an out of the exit doors so you also get the chance to see your child too. Many thanks in your understanding of this matter and to those parents/carers who took their children out today.

Staffing Update

We have two new fantastic starters at School this week. A warm St Nics welcome to Mrs McLachlan who joins as a TA in our resource base team. She has a huge amount of SEND experience from her previous school and is passionate about supporting all children with SEND needs. We are also joined by Miss Fletcher who is an apprentice TA, working in the mainstream classes. She is already finding her feet in Years 3 & 4 and the children are helping her to settle in to the St Nics routine. We wish them all the best in their new roles.

House Points

Ludlow	173
Foxcote	211
Tyning	186
Huish	224

Diary Dates

Tuesday 12th March

4pm Parents' and Carers' Evening (Not Y6)

Wednesday 13th March

4pm: Y6 Parents' and Carers' Evening

Thursday 14th March

Y2: Visit To Radstock Museum

4pm Parents' and Carers' Evening

Friday 15th March

Comic Relief

Tuesday 19th March

12pm: Reception Family Lunch

Y2 & Y6 Dance

Thursday 21st March

Y4: Visit To Butser Ancient Farm

2.30pm: Reception Family Event

Friday 22nd March

Mufti Day

9.00am: Spirit Of St Nicholas

Tuesday 26th March

PTFA Easter Bingo

Wednesday 27th March

9.30am Easter Bonnet Assembly

Thursday 28th March

9.15 Easter Service

12.40pm/1.00pm End Of Term 4

Monday 15th April

Term 5

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eschools.co.uk/app



BATH & WEST
FOOD & DRINK FESTIVAL

23 - 24 MARCH 2024



Featuring the British Cheese Awards

bathandwest.com/tickets



KIDS GO FREE!*

- British Cheese Awards • Farmhouse Tavern •
- Farmhouse Kitchen - Featuring Celebrity Chefs and Food & Drink Pairings • Over 100 Trade Stands • Kids Zone • Roaming Entertainment •
- Great Food & Drink from the South West •

BOOK YOUR TICKETS NOW

* 15 & under

make a difference

Work with children
Connect with your community
Enrich lives & learn new skills

Volunteer at Lifeskills

Join us for a taster hour!
Learn more about lifeskills, get in touch.



0117 922 4511

volunteer@lifeskills-bristol.org.uk



LIBRARY EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

w/c
11 March

Bath Central Library

Centenary Storytime

Tuesday 10.30 - 11.00am 12 March

Baby Bounce and Rhyme

Wednesday 10.30 - 11.00am 13 March

Knit Two, Share One - knitting & Crochet group for any age/ability

Thursday 10.00 - 12.00pm 14 March

Norland Nannies Community Sewing Bee - For any age/ability, drop in

Friday 10.00 - 2.00pm 15 March

Board Game Saturdays

Saturday 12.30 - 4.00pm 16 March

Art in the Library: Views from the Pavement

Mon - Sat during opening hours 6 - 28 March

Sensory Space, for families with children and young adults with sensory needs

Mon - Sat, Book a Session via Eventbrite

Lego Lab, Family Fun Drop In

Mon - Sat During opening hours

For any ticketed events, the link will be online via the blog.
Visit bathneslibraries.wordpress.com

[Bath & North East Somerset Council](#)

Improving People's Lives

2023-2024 SCHOOL TERM AND HOLIDAY DATES

Including INSET DAYS

TERM 1	
Start:	Tuesday 5th September
Finish:	Friday 20th October
TERM 2	
Start:	Monday 30th October
Finish:	Friday 15th December
TERM 3	
Start:	Wednesday 3rd January
Finish:	Friday 9th February
TERM 4	
Start:	Monday 19th February
Finish:	Thursday 28th March
TERM 5	
Start:	Monday 15th April
Finish:	Friday 24th May
TERM 6	
Start:	Monday 3rd June
Finish:	Tuesday 23rd July
INSET DAYS	
Friday 1st September 2023	
Monday 4th September 2023	
Tuesday 2nd January 2024	
Monday 29th January 2024	
Friday 12th July 2024	