

# The St Nicholas Post

9th June 2023

Dear All,

The last term of the school year has arrived. For our youngest children, it seems just such a short while ago that you joined us - school really is such a marker of time! And for our oldest the last term at St Nicholas, enjoy every moment :)

We have a busy term ahead and the dates are attached to help organise things during this busy time. As we approach the end of the current academic year, we continue to work as hard to **be the best we can** be during term 6, as we did in term 1– it's who we are!

Mrs Kennedy



## Key Dates—Term 6

9th June	Year 1 and 2 Wingham Trip. Fathers' Day shop (Years 1 & 2 will visit the shop prior to leaving for Wingham)
WB 12th June	Phonics Screening Year 1
12th June	Collaborative Sporting Event at Minster Primary School (in school)
12th–16th June	Year 6 PGL Residential Trip
16th June	Year 5 Discovery Park, Sandwich Trip
20th June	Y6 Parents Workshop – Transition to Secondary 9-10.30am
23rd June	Year 5 and 6 Swimming Lessons
28th June	New Intake Teddy Bear's Picnic 1.15-2.15pm
30th June	Year 5 and 6 Swimming Lessons PTFA Non-Uniform Day PTFA Disco after school – KS1 3.15-4.30pm, KS2 5-6.30pm
5th July	New Intake Taster Day: 9.30-10.30am (A-H surnames), 1.15-2.15pm (I-Z surnames)
6th July	Transition Day
7th July	Year 5 and 6 Swimming Lessons
13th July	Year 6 Production
14th July	Summer Fair
17th July	Reports to Parents
18th July	Open Afternoon
21st July	Year 6 Leavers Celebrations / Last day of term – 2pm finish

**St Nicholas at Wade Open Gardens**



All of the children have produced a piece of artwork based on the theme 'what's in my garden'. Their work is proudly on display in St Nicholas at Wade church for everyone to enjoy over the open garden's weekend. The church is full of colourful decorated paper plates that the children have turned into beautiful pieces of art work. Please do take your children along to see their work being enjoyed by people enjoying the gardens. They are serving ploughman's lunches and cream teas too!

The friends of the church chose some prize winners from the art work. Here are the winners who will receive an Amazon voucher but more importantly the warm fuzzy feeling that you get from doing something well!

EYFS winner	Hattie
Highly commended	Roux, Isla
KS1	Jack (Year 2)
Highly commended	Iris, Norah
KS2	Sophia (Year 5)
Highly commended	Lara, Theo C, Jasper, Phoebe W

**Summer Reading Challenge**

Please follow this <https://summerreadingchallenge.org.uk/#library> to get involved in the summer reading challenge. You can either do it online or at your local library. Both ways allow you to collect 'stickers' for each book you read as well as rewards if you take part at the library or a certificate if you take part online. Either way the real reward is being a better reader! Reading unlocks the entire curriculum as well as a world of wonder, imagination and adventure!



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We will also be sending home our own St Nicholas at Wade reading and maths challenges just to make sure we keep you **all** on track! :)

Courage, Resilience, Honesty, Kindness, Be the best you can be... It's who we are!

## This week the Value Champions are Honesty!

Well done to all our houses who gave the parents a wonderful insight into school life and how important belonging to your houses and ultimately St Nicholas is. Sports day was a wonderful celebration of all the skills you have gained throughout the year in PE. It was also a joy to see how much you all enjoy being physically active and having a go!

You were all winners! But the house with the most points was Honesty! So well done  
Team Honesty :)

### Phonics Screening

The year 1 children will be completing their phonics screening next week. If you would like to do any practice please follow this: [https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/809986/2019\\_phonics\\_pupils\\_materials\\_standard.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/809986/2019_phonics_pupils_materials_standard.pdf)

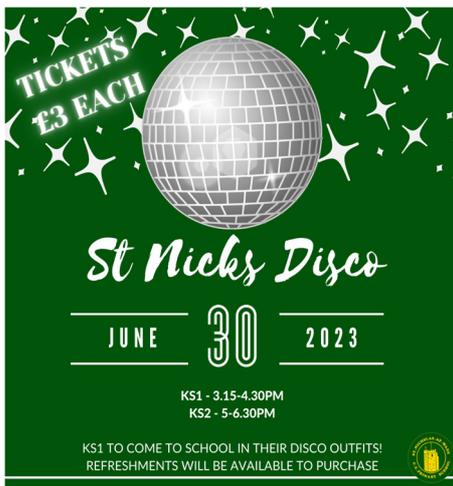
to a previous paper. Thank you for all the work you have been doing at home to support the children with this.

### Attendance Drive Update

For fun and games on the field we need to reach 95%! This weeks attendance is 94.4% - so close! Let's make sure we hit our target :)



### The PTFA Summer Disco



Dust down your party clothes, get out your dancing shoes, and get ready for the night of your lives! The PTFA are holding a summer disco for **all of the children** on Friday 30th June:

- Reception and KS1: 3:15 pm– 4:30
- KS2:5pm-6:30pm

The reception and KS1 children will come in their party clothes and go straight to the disco at the end of the school day. Ks2 will need to leave school and come back at 5pm. Please note that we have used this day as the no uniform day for the summer fair donation to try and limit the list of things to remember! **Tickets available on school money.**

Thank you to Autumn's dad for providing such a wonderful gift to the school—a drum kit! The children will benefit enormously from this, as well as all the other instruments he has kindly donated.





After a really successful meeting with Rock On! Music Academy, we are really pleased to be able to say they will be delivering instrument lessons from St Nicholas at Wade. For more information please see their website by following this link: <https://www.rockonmusicacademy.com/>

Rock On! Music Academy teaches Individual lessons in Vocals, Guitar, Bass, Drums, Piano & Ukulele and follows the RSL syllabus.

If you feel your child could be interested in lessons please register your interest online using this: <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeGcfSorp0RrbUd3zeuaQa-ik1bdTpFI3W1yOaWOP1grSaU2Q/viewform>

### Football Free Friday!

Having listened to the views of parents, teachers and children we are going to keep **Fridays free from football.**

We are delighted that the children enjoy football and are passionate about playing but we want to ensure that they get a well rounded exposure to a variety of sports and activities during break and lunch times. This will allow them to develop new interests, skills and friendships as well as creating a space where everyone can find something fun and active to enjoy! We would really welcome your feedback on this as the term progresses.



### MTC (Multiplication Tables Check)

Year 4 please make sure you are practising your times tables on TTRS—You have your check coming up shortly. Parents to find out more about this, please click here: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/multiplication-tables-check-information>



# Home and school—A perfect partnership

## 1 Listen to them read

This is so important - even if it's a book they've already read, or you read some, they read some.

Share books together, make it enjoyable.

Model reading: It is so vital



## 2 Try to find out about their day

You'll be met with the inevitable 'nothing'.

Ask questions around it:

What sound did you do in phonics?

Who did you play with? What made you proud today? What did you learn in maths?



## 3 Don't push if they won't tell you

Try feeding them before you ask them. Wait a while a try a different question later. They may need some down time before they talk to you about their day.



Chose your time :)

## 4 Home work—if it's a battle, stop

It doesn't help anyone to have a screaming session regarding homework. If it is causing your child to be upset—stop and talk to the teacher about it. It can be hard enough fitting it into busy family life without tears—sometimes from both parties!



## 5 Get both sides of a story

If your child has come home upset, of course you want to know why. Ask the school for their view.

Children don't always tell it exactly how it was.

When we work together we will more likely have all the information.

## 6 Use our website

Our website has lots of resources for you to support your child. Like the calculation policy, reading suggestions and questions to support reading.

Videos, links and dates for you to attend workshops.

<https://www.st-nicholas-birchington.kent.sch.uk/>

## 7 Raise a concern early

Don't let it fester! We don't want you to have a niggle that could grow. Talk to us straight away, a 5 minute chat could save a lot of worry later. We want to resolve issues as much as you—but we need to know them.



## 8 Ask how you can help

We are always happy to pass work your way! Be specific, ask about a particular subject, how can I help with their spelling? What can I do to help their adding? What vocabulary do they need for this topic? What sounds are they finding hard...

## 9 Don't moan in front of the children

We are all allowed to have a moan—I know I did about my children's schools (only occasionally)

Don't let the children hear, they listen to everything and it shapes their view of school. We must be a team and be seen to be a team.



## 10 Remember...

We want the same as you! Happy, safe children who learn and work hard. A school where kindness is the default and our school family is united.

**We may not always get it right, but we never, ever set out to get it wrong.**