

The St Nicholas Post

7th October 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

Autumn is here, the nights are drawing in and the weather is most definitely on the turn. I love each season for different reasons but what I love the most about a temperate climate is the welcome change from each into the next. Which brings me on to a significant change in school life...

Our New House Names

St Nicholas operates a very successful house point system, it has been established for years and creates a sense of belonging and healthy competition, leading to everyone raising their game to be the best they can be! The houses were named After local Authors Jeffery **Chaucer**, Joseph **Conrad**, Charles **Dickens** and Christopher **Marlow**. Our new house names are: **Courage**, **Honesty**, **Resilience** and **Kindness** all underpinned by being the best you can be. If you were thinking they sound familiar—you would be right! These are our Christian values, they inform everything that happens in school life, every decision and action, every policy and process is underpinned by these. It seemed wholly appropriate that they should replace the old house names.

Backstory behind the change: We are really proud of encouraging St Nicholas pupils to demonstrate these values and two pupils (Isla Connelly and Kitty Rance) felt strongly that the house names, which were all male authors, was unfair and didn't represent the diversity of our community. Being St Nicholas pupils, they knew that it was right to be true to oneself, being honest about what they could achieve and showed great courage in taking this matter to the headteacher. Their resilience continued as they went one step further, writing to the Chair of Governors! This action led to the matter being considered and crucially **they** brought about a change, we are indebted to these pupils for their determination and moral purpose. We are really pleased to have our New houses with ambassadors each value attached to them.

Be The Best You Can Be			
Courage	Honesty	Resilience	Kindness
Rosa Parks	Margaret Atwood	Ernest Shackleton	Marcus Rashford
Neil Armstrong	Queen Elizabeth II	Serena Williams	Mary Seacole
Emmaline Pankhurst	Winston Churchill	Frida Kahlo	Dian Fossey
Isambard Kingdom Brunel	Rita Peirson	Greta Thunberg	George Cadbury
Daniel (lions den)	Mary	Noah	Jesus

We believe that children's personal development and attributes are critical to their success as well-rounded people both now and in their future lives. These values will help them to grow and find their way, please refer to these at home and encourage them to think about how they show them day in and day out.

Mrs Kennedy

Izabella's Play Park

There's a new park in town! And that park is Izabella's Play Park in Monkton. Having turned up to the opening of the fabulous play area Izabella's name was put into the hat (right at the last minute!) seconds later her name was pulled out and the park was open officially as 'Izabella's Play Park'

How special—to have a park named after you—well done Izabella we can't wait to come and play there!



Parking Plea

Please be mindful of the zig zag lines outside of the school. No one should be stopping on these—not even as a drop off. The road is becoming increasingly busy and at times dangerous. Thank you for supporting us with this.

Parking in some of the roads further back and walking the rest of the way, could be a great opportunity to get some more steps in!

Attendance Matters. Attend Today—Achieve Tomorrow



We know that there are times that children will be ill and will need to stay at home. We also know that there is a direct link between attendance and attainment, so regular attendance really does matter! :) If your child is unwell please call the school office on 01843 847253 so that we are able to record this.

Thanks from Thanet Food Bank

We have been asked to say a big thank you to the generosity of our families who donated a huge amount of food to the Thanet Food Bank. Some has been distributed already to families and the rest will be going to good homes, who really need it. Our school values are clearly demonstrated both in and out of school and your kindness is really appreciated.