



St Nicholas VC Church of England Primary School
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 Somerset County Council
 Headteacher: Mrs Alison Shearer B.Ed (Hons) MA NPQH



Newsletter: 1st December 2017

Whole school half termly focus:
Pushing ourselves and not giving up.

Whole school Christian Value for this half term:
Perseverance and Courage

Dear Parents/Guardians

Christmas is approaching fast and all is in hand with our rehearsals across the school. The children are getting very excited about their performances and it has been a joy to hear singing across our school. Our Key Stage 1 staff, with Mrs Gosney's musical leading, are working very hard to ensure all children are enjoying and doing their best with being inn keepers, angels and many more. No doubt, by the end of term, we will have lots to celebrate and be proud of.



More celebrations with our Sports:

Very, very well done to our Athletics Team who competed with 9 other local schools and WON the competition. A fabulous achievement indeed. This then got our team through to the 2nd Stage - South West competition in Yeovil - once again a super result with our team getting a fantastic 2nd place, beating many other schools from further afield.

This means that the team are now competing in the final stage - THE FINAL on Tuesday 30th January. We are so proud of our team and, of course, Miss Steninger for her expert skills and extremely positive attitude.

Well done to:

Hannah Hardie, Jaiden Gluszek, Harley Gluszek
 Jacob Crabb, Scarlett Downton, Ben Hayter, Lauren Le Poidevin, Ellie Le Poidevin, Chloe Cadwallader, Charlie Howe, Brandon Howe, Charlie Phillips, Joshua Hansford, Caitlin Waterman-Mulder, Ruby Butterworth and Freya Pallett. Well done also to Katie Brockway and Joshua Biddiscombe who joined the team for the second stage last week. We wish you all the best for the finals on 30th January.

Charity.



Thank you for your support with our fundraising - we have been very encouraged by your support and efforts:

- ❖ Children in Need = £106.58
- ❖ Poppy Appeal = £ 72.49
- ❖ Shoe Box Appeal = 24 boxes in total which have now been sent off.

❖ *Science week 'Bounceathon' for school funds = a superb £1140.72 (A huge thank you to those who made such a super effort. Two of our families even raised over £100 - well done to Tyler and also Jaiden/Freya/Harley.) Thank you to Mrs Bendell for organising this. Super fun and definitely worthwhile. She has this message:*

'We enjoyed a fabulous Science week on The Air Around Us. The children were lucky enough to enjoy visits from a variety of people and animals to enhance their learning experience. These visits were funded by some of the Fiver Challenge money raised last summer. The week also included our sponsored bounce. Thank you so much to the families that took the time to gather sponsorships and collect so much money.'

HELP US TO RAISE MORE FOR SCHOOL FUNDS - you can really help our £££ 'pot' when you shop on line and it's at no extra cost to you.

Please look at our GIVING MACHINE information sent out today and also on our school website in the PTFA section. Register on www.thegivingmachine.co.uk

*or you can download the app for iPhone or Android(Search for St Nicholas C of E School, Henstridge when registering.) *the word 'primary' is not used. (SEE FLIER OUT TODAY)*

PTFA thank you:

A huge thank you to our PTFA team for such excellent support. The children have enjoyed very well organised film afternoons and food. With your support, they have agreed the following:

£1500 donation to update our computing resources for the children;

£200 donation to create a new sensory area in our school garden;

£100 donation to update our music resources.

This is all as a result of your support at our Summer Fayre earlier in the year.

School budgets have decreased considerably so we must do regular fundraising each term to allow us to keep the very best provision in place for our children.



Personalised by the children -Tea Towels

Our PTFA also discussed selling tea towels to help our school funds - all children have drawn their portraits and we are now ready for the sale - each morning on the playground - £4/tea towel.



More Diary Dates:



Christmas dates for your diary:

Tuesday 5th December at 11am:

Christmas Story Candlelight Treat - Dragonflies and Butterflies in the church.(Staff and pupils)

Tuesday 5th and Wednesday 6th

December at 3:15pm - Mrs Gosney's Music Medley - all children will be performing. (See letter sent out from Mrs Gosney)

Friday 8th December - morning session

Nativity rehearsal (non-dress) for Dragonflies and Butterflies. (More info from Mrs McGinty & Mrs Bendell)



Kinds hands

Over the last fortnight, staff have awarded a fantastic 34 kindness tree leaves for children who do a helpful, kind task/action without having to be asked - we know this in our school as 'being responsible.'



All children who have reached their 75 sticker award will be treated to a **special play time and hot chocolate on Thursday 14th Dec.**

Well done to all parents who have made a real effort with their child's home reading. Being able to enjoy reading remains our key learning focus in school as this is a life-long skill.

Parents' Celebration Assemblies:

(2:45 in our school hall - see our full year planner on our website - tab on left hand side 'Parent/Pupil Assemblies')

***We will text if there is a time change.**

Friday 19th Jan - Butterfly Class

Friday 26th Jan - Hedgehog Class

Friday 2nd Feb - Ladybird Class

Friday 9th Feb - Dragonfly Class

(Half term on Mon 12th Feb - 16th Feb inc.)

Friday 15th December - Christmas Nativity in the VILLAGE HALL:

(1) Dress rehearsal to all classes and staff at 2:00pm

(2) Performance for parents/friends at 6:00pm (note - pupil drop off at 5:30pm in the village hall. Doors open at 5:45pm.)

*Ticket information will be sent out later next term. Tea/coffee and other fundraising items are being organised for the performance evening.

Monday 18th December - Year 3 to Year 6 Carol Service Practice. We have booked the church from 1:30 - 2:45pm.

Sunday 10th December at 4pm - Christingle Service in the church. All school children are welcome to attend this event which is organised by the church.
** Make your Christingle instructions have been sent out today and Miss Middleton will be explaining this to the children in Collective Worship Assembly on 4th Dec.*

Tuesday 12th December - Start of Hanukkah. Awareness to whole school in Collective Worship at 10:10am.

Wednesday 13th December - Whole school trip to Octagon Theatre - 'Cinderella' (See letter from Mrs Billington sent out on 30th Nov.)

Thursday 14th December - Whole school pupil and staff Christmas meal. (Staff are invited to sit with the children to enjoy the festive food.)

Friday 15th December - Christmas Jumper Day for fun - children are invited to wear a Christmas jumper to school with their school uniform. They can bring £1 for Save the Children.

Wednesday 20th December - Whole School Class Christmas Party Day - more details coming later next term. (Non-school uniform day.)

Wednesday 20th December - Year 3 to Year 6 (Key Stage 2) Carol Service of 9 lessons and Carols - village church at 6:00pm. All families and friends of all our year groups are invited to this.

Thursday 21st December - PTFA Disco

- ❖ Reception, Year 1 and 2 pupils in the school hall from 5:00pm - 6:00pm
- ❖ Year 3 to Year 6 pupils in the school hall from 6:15pm - 7:15pm

(More details from the PTFA nearer the time.)

Friday 22nd December - **Friday 5th January** inc. School closed for the Christmas holidays

Monday 8th January - school re-opens for Spring Term A 2018.



Wishing you all a very Happy Christmas and a peaceful 2018 on behalf of our school staff team and Governing Board

Mrs Alison Shearer

