



St Nicholas VC Church of England Primary School
 Ash Walk, Henstridge, Templecombe, Somerset BA8 0QD
 Tel: 01963 362308 www.stnicholashenstridge.co.uk
 Somerset County Council
 Headteacher: Mrs Shearer B.Ed (Hons) MA NPQH



Newsletter: 06.09.19

[Whole school half termly focus:](#)
[Supporting and understanding one another](#)

[Whole school Christian Values for this half term:](#)
[Friendship and Trust](#) (See Values letter on our website in our newsletter section)

Dear Parents/Guardians

Welcome back to our new academic year and we trust you had a fun 6 weeks off with your children.

My staff and I would like to thank you for your encouraging messages and very thoughtful, kind gifts at the end of last term. We see it as a real privilege to teach your children each day and to work alongside you to ensure we get it right each day. My team believe that children learn best when happy, secure and safe - as always, this is our main driver as we embark on another new journey of learning this year.

A very special welcome to all of our new Dragonflies - all 16 have settled in seamlessly and are already showing signs of being super learners. Well done and thank you to our amazing Year 6 pupils who have taken on the role of buddy and friend to each of our new Year Rs. It has been wonderful to hear their feedback in how much they are loving their leadership roles.

(Keep an eye on our website for photos).
 Now, looking forward, we are very excited about what this year holds. I have to say a sincere thank you to all of my staff for working so hard over the summer to ensure all is ready for the children. A special welcome to Mr Dowding, Mrs Hopson, Mrs Payne and Mrs Spike (our new SENCO) - they have already had a very positive impact on our school staff team. The feedback from our children and parents has been plentiful and very encouraging.

Website

We are working hard this term to ensure all is updated and useful. Please do keep an eye on your child's class tab as you will be able to see what learning is taking place each half term through photos, curriculum maps and timetables.

Afterschool club information is also on the website - most are running as last year. Again - if you have any feedback, please do come and see me as we like to update provision when and where possible.

Reminder - Breakfast Club is £2.75 for all entry times. It is £1 only from 8:25am

Team Houses

All children in our school are grouped in to houses:

Ash, Beech, Oak and Willow

This year, we are planning to do many more activities in our houses to allow the children to mix across year groups. More information on this will be coming out as the terms progress.

Stay and Play dates:

We are also planning for parents to stay and enjoy practical activities with the children. We will be having 'stay and draw', 'stay and build', 'stay and read' etc. Again, more information will come out soon.

Weekly Class  Dojo Winners

Awards will commence next Friday.

This week - well done to the following children for getting one of our new special, sparkling Headteacher certificates:

- Vladut** for super counting on the clock face
- Matthew** for super construction work
- Archie P** for amazing building and creativity
- Alfie C & Josie** for excellent writing
- Archie C** for amazing focus and effort
- Ben H** for excellent role modelling
- Chloe C** for super place value answering
- Lucy** for whizzy simplifying of fractions

Diary Dates:

September:

Fri 13th - Roald Dahl Day - all classes celebrating this. Your child can dress up as a favourite character from any of his books *if they wish*. However, as it's quite short notice, there is no 'must do' on this. Some children may wish to bring in a favourite Roald Dahl book. Some staff may also wish to dress up on the day. 😊

Mon 16th - Hedgehog Class swimming sessions start. Please ensure your child is not wearing jewellery on this day. We don't want it getting lost.

Wed 18th - Miss Cochrane out on training. Supply teacher in all day for Butterflies. (Mrs Gosney to confirm availability for supply.)

Mon 23rd - Lords' Larder focus in Collective Worship at 10:15am.

Wed 25th - Hedgehogs' Team Activity Day out, kayaking etc - more details from Mrs Rozycki coming soon.

Wed 25th - Governing Board meeting at 5:30pm - 7:30pm (Our clerk, Mrs Billington, will be in touch soon as we need a new parent governor this term.)

Fri 27th - Dragonfly Class Parents' Celebration Assembly (1) - in our school hall at 2:45pm - 3:05pm

Diary Dates:

October:

Wed 2nd - 'Meet and Greet' - parents are invited to come in at 2:40pm to meet with each class teacher in their classrooms. This is to give all parents the chance to:

- See their child's learning environment;
- Speak with the teacher as a class group of parents - questions from parents will be welcomed/suggestions for the term;
- Receive your child's learning objectives booklet for their year group;
- Hear the teacher's expectations for your child.

This is a really important meeting so we would love to see as many parents as possible. I will be taking all the children in our school hall and we will also be running a crèche for toddlers.

Friday 4th - Butterfly Class Parents' Celebration Assembly (1) - in our school hall at 2:45pm - 3:05pm

Friday 11th - visiting theatre company in for whole school enjoyment: 'I am Turtle' - the magical world of turtles and plastics in our environment.

Thur 24th - Harvest Service 2pm in our village church.

Important reminders from our school office to ensure all runs smoothly:

- **School Hot Meals** - please ensure that you order your child's meals on time as, if your order is late, your child will not be able to have their hot meal. Mrs Crosby will continue to support this request by sending out timely, helpful text messages to all parents.
- **School gate** - opens at 8:35am and closes promptly at 8:50am. This ensures we keep our children safe each day.
- **Uniform orders** - these must be placed by 15th or 30th of each month. Delivery is up to 14 days after these dates.
- **Reporting your child's illness/absence** - please do let our school know on each day of absence.
- **Flu immunisations** - letters out on Monday next week. All children will be invited to have this as it hugely reduces the proportion of passing on any illness to older members of our community.
- **Healthy Eating** - what is a healthy lunch box for your child? See our website under the 'Pupils' Meals' section.
- **Drinking bottles** - please provide 2 named bottles if your child wishes to have a low sugar juice drink. Children are encouraged to have water in their bottles throughout the school day. Juice is only for lunchtime drinking.
- **Medical needs** - please ensure your child's medication in school is in date. This is each parent's responsibility.

Library Club at Lunchtimes

Book choosing time: 12:45pm - 1:15pm
Mrs Howell and Mrs Crabb run this at lunchtimes so that all children get the chance to take a new book home each week.

Children choose to come and will receive regular reminders from their class teacher. You can help too if you know your child's book

choosing day:

Dragonflies - Mondays

Butterflies - Tuesdays

Ladybirds - Wednesdays

Hedgehogs - Thursdays.

Congratulations...

Well done to Mrs Howell and our children for planting our garden produce.

Again, this year, we have won the schools' gardening cup at the Dorset Competition.

Best onions in the region!

Please look out for our photo in the Blackmore Vale Mag.

Congratulations also to Mrs Crosby - her first little grandson, Noah, has been born. We wish her many years ahead of fun, hugs and happy memories.

A sincere thank you to Mrs Jane Jeanes, our Chair of Governors, for coming in every day this week to support us. Her help and experience in working with children continue to be an invaluable support to our school. Mrs Jeanes will be coming in again and will also be doing apple juicing and lots more with our children.

Wishing you all, as valued members of our school community, a very happy successful year ahead.

We will be holding our Autumn teacher/parent consultations on Tues 12th and Wed 13th November from 3:30pm to 6:30pm. Please save these dates.

Mrs Alison Shearer