



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: 23rd October 2020

Whole school half termly focus:

Supporting and understanding one another.

Whole school Christian Value for this half term:

Friendship and Trust

Dear Parents/Guardians

How this term has flown by. The children have been amazing and have shown us just how resilient, determined and focused they can be amidst changes in routine and environment. All of the teachers are pleased that all children have earned their first bronze certificate of the year. At St Nicholas, our whole school community recognises that mistakes are helpful tools to learn new things and make improvements.

Start times for school - update

Thank you very much for working with us to support our staggered start and finish times. Please note the following updates for 2nd November onwards:

***Butterfly and Dragonfly Classes will now start at 8:45 each morning.** The driveway gate will be opened for Ladybirds and Butterflies at 8:45 each morning. Dragonflies will continue with their playground entrance but at the new time of 8:45.

Finish times will remain the same as this term.

Butterfly and Ladybird Collection - Parents will now be invited to queue up along each side of the driveway. Parents must wear face masks when standing on our driveway please. I would also ask that all parents respect the social distancing rules. Teachers will then release the children from the staff car park once they see the parent. Please can I ask that Butterfly Parents stand on the right side of the drive and Ladybird Parents stand on the left. Please also stand in a similar position each day to aid a smooth, speedy pick up for the teachers.

Attendance 

Well done to the vast majority who have really improved attendance levels:

Here are our percentages from each class with all half days/agreed timetables accounted for. The below is the percentage of pupils in each class who have achieved 100% attendance since 7th September 2020:

Dragonfly Year R - 20%

Butterfly Years 1 & 2 - 66%

Ladybird Years 3 & 4 - 72%

Hedgehog Year 5 - 77%

Owl Year 6 - 86%

Reminder: each child's target is 97% each half term so I would ask that no term time holidays are booked please. There is a direct link with poor attendance and academic progress.

Covid-19 school closure is showing us that all children have numerous gaps in their learning. My team and I are working hard to plug these gaps so we need your child to be in school. We appreciate some children with low attendance have been genuinely unwell this term. However, this is not the case for everyone. Please work with us to ensure your child reaches their full potential.



Our Class Kindness Tree



Well done to the children who have earned our new golden ball award. It's lovely to see so many on our tree already this term.

WHOLE SCHOOL SPONSORED TREK -

FRIDAY 4th December 2020



On this date your child will need: waterproof coat with a hood, walking boots/wellies, a snack and a water bottle. Sponsor forms out next term. We will be raising funds for playtime equipment.

NEWS Staffing update: **NEWS**

We are running another round of interviews for our teacher vacancy on 19th November. We will keep Dragonfly and Butterfly Parents updated with our news.

Good news with lunch times - we have appointed 2 new ladies to join our lunchtime supervisor and cleaning team. Mrs Forster and Miss Andrews will shadow our current supervisors early next term and will then start supporting our current team.



Collective Worship

We will be using the church more next term - Wednesday mornings to start with. It was super to have Rev Kevin with us for our Key Stage 2 assembly this week.



Well done to our Year 5s and 6s - lovely to see the Shackleton shelters and boats this week and the fire at the bottom of our school field today.



Super learners and thinkers- rewards

Once again, it was great to celebrate the role models, dojo winners and runners up this week. How lovely to see and hear lots of celebration messages going out from the children to their winning friends.



After School Sports Club

Next term, I will be sending out an 'interest slip' to see if we have the take up to re-commence our after school sports clubs. We have booked the village hall for our class PE sessions next term.

Stalbridge Youth FC are looking for girls and boys in Year 5 to come and join their under 10s team. Please find them on Facebook Stalbridge Youth FC or contact Rocky on 07715385806 or kate1201@btinternet.com

Information slips have been sent home.

Diary Dates

***Remember to order your hot meals on line by Thursday 29th October over half term.**

31st October - deadline for Year 6 parents - secondary school applications.

Friday 6th November - Miss Cochrane's virtual teacher/parent consultations.

Week of 9th November - Governors monitoring week for all classes.

Monday 9th & Tuesday 10th November - Mrs Hopson's face to face teacher/parent consultations.

Friday 13th November - Mufti Day for Children in Need. We invite the children to bring £1 for charity on this day please.

Tuesday 17th November - Mr Pavey's face to face teacher/parent consultations.

Tuesday 17th & Wednesday 18th November - Mrs Connor's virtual teacher/parent consultations.

Wednesday 25th November - Mr Dowding's face to face teacher/parent consultations.

(Each teacher will be in touch with you about booking times that are suitable for all parents. Working parents will be accommodated as a priority in light of Covid-19)

Thank you for all your support to date - we are always happy to hear your ideas on how to continue with improvement.

Enjoy your half term week off and we hope to see everyone back safe and well on Monday 2nd November.

Mrs Alison Shearer