



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: 11.09.2020

Whole school half termly focus:
Supporting and understanding one another.

Whole school Christian Values for this half term:
Friendship & Trust

(See Values letter on our website in our newsletter section)

Dear Parents/Guardians

We have had a super week and thank you again for making our new staggered times at different entrances work so smoothly.

One update, for H&S, is that our Year R parents are now allowed to come inside the school pupil gate - please socially distance in the area from the pupil gate to the steps. This creates a much bigger space for the new pupils to leave parents and walk down to the classroom. This will aid settling in to life at school. It has been great to see so many smiling children each morning. Mr Dowding has been very impressed at the progress from Monday to today.

Children in Year 1 - 6 have been amazing - all are glad to be back. It has been such a joy to see their attitude to learning both during classroom tasks and play times.

Hot meals - are returning; the children in Ladybird with Mrs Hopson gave a huge 'yeah' when they heard! Please see Mrs Billington's letter out yesterday if you wish to order a hot meal from The Inn at Horsington.

Pupil Voice Council

Miss Cochrane will lead this for 2020-21 with her Owl Class - Year 6s. She will keep us all updated as they work together for whole school projects and new initiatives. We look forward to hearing from our PV Council.

Weekly Class **Dojo Winners**

Well done to all of our determined learners - all of our children have had a great first week and we are very proud of them all.

This year our dojo points (merit points for daily working and playing) will convert in to house points - the winning house each week will then be invited to fly their new house banner on the school field.

We will put our new banners out at the front of our school once they arrive.

Our four house names are:

Ash, Oak, Willow and Beech.

All of the children will meet with me next week to update them on our new dojo/high five house point awards.

Weekly Role Models

Congratulations to all classes for having an excellent attitude to learning, showing kind hands to others and for using good manners.

From next week, we will be awarding individual pupils for role modelling super work, attitude and play each day.

Good to be Green...behaviour & attitude to learning...

Each class will continue with 'Each day is a new day' philosophy - St Nicholas children know that it is good to learn from a mistake.

Reading at home

Please support your child by reading with them every day - reading is the core of all learning. Please sign your child's reading record daily. I have been very impressed with last years' efforts - keep up the good work everyone for 2020-21.

Safeguarding - E-Safety

Please ensure you keep a careful eye on what your child is doing online. We will be sending out our new 'Digital Parenting' booklet.

www.internetmatters.org or

www.parentzone.org.uk

At St Nicholas we say the following before we eat our lunch:

*For what we are about to receive,
May the Lord make us truly thankful.*

Our whole school prayer for Collective Worship is:

*Dear Lord - help me to use -
My voice for kindness
My ears for compassion
My hands for charity
My mind for truth and
My heart for love.
Amen*

You can practise the above at home if you wish.
New children will also be learning them in school.

Future planning in light of the new normal -

- EarlyBirds & TeaBirds - please phone the school office next week if you need before or after school care. Both clubs will start Mon 21st September.
- New awning carpets for our school field to allow us to hold whole school events.
- Hot meals will be eaten in the classrooms with the packed lunches.
- We will be putting a yurt or large tent on our school field to ensure the children continue to have time outside the classroom in adverse weather conditions.
- PE coaches will be starting with us again on Tuesday 22nd September. Until then, the teachers will be teaching the PE lessons. PE days don't change but some children may, at a later stage this term, enjoy extra sessions on a Friday afternoon.
- Village walks will be happening this term so if you see us about in the village, give us a wave.
- Parent meetings will be held in October - more details to follow.
- New website coming soon.

Parent/Guardian support for work in school.

As always, we say 'yes please' to any useful offers of support.

A sincere thank you to Matthew and Bella's parents for giving us shelves for our PE shed. Liz and Hein even installed them this week. My staff and I fully appreciate your kindness and support with this.

Request to sand and paint -

Have you got either/both of the following?

- Free time in the week
- An electric sander

(We will provide the paint and paintbrushes)

We need parents/guardians to come on to the school field to update our wooden benches. Years ago one of our handy parents made them for us - it's now time to give them a new breath of life. Please can you come and speak with me on/before Friday 18th September.

My team and I very much look forward to making the academic year one of the best ever. As I always say, if you see/hear anything that helps us to improve the way we do things here at St Nicholas, please do speak to us. We continue to update and improve every term. Here's to a great half term - have a wonderful weekend with your children and we will see you on Monday again.

We have quite a few children absent due to them feeling unwell with a sore throat or head cold. Please continue to check your child's temperature if they are absent and liaise our office if your child shows any signs of Covid-19. So far, all is good so we trust it will remain so.
Alison Shearer

Reminder - 'Hands, Face, Space' - public information campaign calls us all to remain vigilant. When you are out and about - wash hands, cover your face and make space. This will control the infection rate of Covid-19.