

The St Nicholas Post

Dear All,

23rd June 2023

With the new year approaching, peoples thoughts are naturally turning towards the upcoming year. While we will maintain the momentum of **hard work right up to the very last day** of the term, it is also crucial that we ensure a smooth transition for our children for their next steps both here and for those moving on to secondary. With this in mind a lot of work is happening in the background to ensure that we facilitate this. As you know, our partnership with you is very important to us and to the success of everything we do in school life. So there is further information in this letter, that will ensure that we are working collaboratively on this.

Mrs Kennedy

Staffing structure for 2023-2024

Headteacher	Mrs Taralee Kennedy		
Assistant headteacher	Mr Tim Neal (Inclusion, SENCO and Maths Lead)		
Miss Moon	Senco Assistant		
Mrs Baptiste	Wellbeing Support children and Parents		
Mrs McPherson	Office Manager		
Mrs Howard	Office Admin Assistant (afterschool club lead)		
TBC	Caretaker		
Class	Teacher	Roles and Responsibilities	Pupil Numbers
R	Mrs Hall Mrs Buckley Mrs Scott Mrs Winchcombe	History Lead/Outdoor Learning KS1 Lead/Early reading Lead	30
1	Miss Cox Mrs Jeffries Mrs Hill (Mon/Tues/Wed)	ECT	29
2	Mr Ford Mrs Back Mrs Moon (Mon/Tus/Wed) Mrs Redfern (Thurs/Fri)	Pupil Voice/PSHCE/Personal Development	30
3	Mrs Jermy/ Mrs Palmer Mrs Eley	Geography/RE &Music	28
4	Miss Patterson Mrs Patrick (Nee Barnett)	PE & MFL (Student Mentor)	32
5	Mrs Draper Mrs Eaves	Science & ICT (Curriculum Team) HLTA	30
6	Mrs Bullard Miss Gill	English Lead	31

Fond Farewell

You will notice from the above that we say a fond farewell to some of our team. Mrs Ives has embarked on a new career and is enjoying being a lifeguard! Mrs Chapman has just been offered a teaching post at another school, we are sad to lose her but we wish her all the best as she takes on her new role in year 4. Mrs Weller has decided to spend more time with her daughter and new grandson, we know that little man will be spoiled rotten! Mrs Redshaw has moved to another area and as much as she loves St Nicks, a 50 mile round trip just won't work. Lastly, Mr Guy is retiring, we will miss his musical talents but he certainly deserves some peace and quiet! I know you will join me in wishing all of them the very best as the start new chapters in their lives.

We are really excited for you to meet the new staff who join our team in September—we were rigorous in our recruitment processes to secure the very best for St Nicholas.

Transition

Children will soon be meeting their new teachers and seeing their new classes. We are doing this in stages:

- Social stories will be sent out to all parents to share with their children
- Their new teacher will come into their existing class to read a story
- They will spend transition day in their new class with their new teachers
- 'Open Doors' - Children will show you their new classroom (Times to follow)
- Secondary teachers meet with children here at St Nicholas and liaise with Mr Neal
- A parent workshop for secondary transition



Book Amnesty– No Questions Asked

Please can we ask that you have a good look at home for school books that need returning—it is inevitable that books will get left at home but we need to get them back where they belong. There will be a box in the library please just send them in with your child and they can pop them in :)

E-Safety



This week Year 5 have been learning how to stay safe online. We have considered ways to keep ourselves safe, including how we design our online avatars and profiles. The class discussed information which we should not share online, and the risks associated with public availability of private information.



Although we realised it was a good idea to change some aspects of our avatars, so we are not identifiable by strangers, we considered the fact that this means we may not be able to trust who people say they are. We came to the conclusion that it is best not to play or chat online with strangers as we could be putting ourselves in danger.

When online, always consider SMART!



Courage, Resilience, Honesty, Kindness, Be the best you can be... It's who we are!

Massive congratulations to Marnie and Taylor who have been selected for the Thanet district primary girls squad. 24 girls attended so we are super proud of their efforts. This didn't happen by chance—these girls constantly strive to be the best they can be, showing honesty, courage and resilience to get better every time they play. What a dynamic duo!

Can you help us to collect some designer's treasure?

Our DT room needs some creative supplies and by recycling you can help us.

We need:



Can you help restock our craft supplies?

We would be grateful for any of the following:

- Corks
- Bottle tops
- Buttons
- Shells
- Giant screws and bolts
- Egg boxes
- Wooden beads
- Cotton reels
- **You name it—we will take it!**



While we are asking, any old toys in good condition are also very welcome. Particularly construction sets and wooden trains and tracks.

Raffle Tickets

PTFA Summer Raffle tickets will be coming home today. Tickets are £1 each and can be purchased by parents/carers or adult family members.

Please return completed tickets and money to the school office.

Please return any unsold raffle tickets to the office too!

Draw is at the summer fair on 14 July. Lots of great prizes on offer!

Thank you to Joshua R-M and mum, the children in reception are loving the extra bike on the playground.



Summer Fair

14 JULY 2-3.30PM

Volunteers needed for 1/2 hour slots to run stalls please. Let the office know if you are able to help - Thank you!

These events are only possible with volunteers - parents, grandparents etc!



DONATIONS OF GOOD
QUALITY PRELOVED TEDDIES
WANTED FOR SUMMER FAIR.

PLEASE TAKE TO CRATE IN
SCHOOL OFFICE BY 7 JULY.

THANK YOU!



St Nicholas at Wade
Primary School PTFA

SUMMER DISCO & NON UNIFORM 30 JUNE 2023

KS1: 3.15 - 4.30

KS2: 5 - 6.30

DISCO: £3 - BOOK VIA SCHOOL MONEY APP
REFRESHMENTS & GLOW STUFF WILL BE ON SALE

NON-UNIFORM DAY
Donations for summer fair please:

YEAR 1 & 2 - SUMMER TOY

YEAR 3 & 4 - SWEETS

YEAR 5 & 6 - BOTTLE OF BOOZE



We are delighted to announce that we, St Nicholas at Wade CoE Primary School, have achieved the School Games Gold Mark Award for the 2022/23 academic year.

The School Games Mark is a Government-led award scheme launched in 2012, facilitated by the Youth Sport Trust to reward schools for their commitment to the development of competition across their school and into the community, and we are delighted to have been recognised for our success.

Our sporting participation in competitive events this year has included basketball, football, rugby, cross country, kwik cricket, tennis, handball, dodgeball, netball and rugby. We are looking forward to the rounders coming up in July and entering the hockey which will hopefully be back next year.

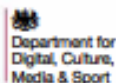
With a huge number of young people competing in local inter-school competitions this year, we are extremely proud of our pupils for their dedication to all aspects of school sport, including those young volunteers, sports leaders and officials who made our competitions possible.

As part of our application, we were asked to fulfil criteria in the areas of participation, competition, workforce and clubs, and we are pleased that the hard work of everyone at our school has been rewarded this year.

A special thanks to:

PE Lead Miss Patterson, Mrs Adams, office staff and to all of the parents who have helped provide lifts to events and have cheered us on. Thank you to the supportive staff and SLT who are all part of our St Nicholas family, who always encourage pupils to live active healthy lives and be the best that they can be! Thank you to Stephanie our School Games Organiser and Gary Reece from Thanet Passport who provide a fantastic calendar of events for pupils.

We look forward to applying once again in 2024!



Home and school—A perfect partnership

1 Listen to them read

This is so important - even if it's a book they've already read, or you read some, they read some.

Share books together, make it enjoyable.

Model reading: It is so vital



2 Try to find out about their day

You'll be met with the inevitable 'nothing'.

Ask questions around it:

What sound did you do in phonics?

Who did you play with? What made you proud today? What did you learn in maths?



3 Don't push if they won't tell you

Try feeding them before you ask them. Wait a while a try a different question later. They may need some down time before they talk to you about their day.



Chose your time :)

4 Home work—if it's a battle, stop

It doesn't help anyone to have a screaming session regarding homework. If it is causing your child to be upset—stop and talk to the teacher about it. It can be hard enough fitting it into busy family life without tears—sometimes from both parties!



5 Get both sides of a story

If your child has come home upset, of course you want to know why. Ask the school for their view.

Children don't always tell it exactly how it was.

When we work together we will more likely have all the information.

6 Use our website

Our website has lots of resources for you to support your child. Like the calculation policy, reading suggestions and questions to support reading. Videos, links and dates for you to attend workshops.

<https://www.st-nicholas-birchington.kent.sch.uk/>

7 Raise a concern early

Don't let it fester! We don't want you to have a niggle that could grow. Talk to us straight away, a 5 minute chat could save a lot of worry later. We want to resolve issues as much as you—but we need to know them.



8 Ask how you can help

We are always happy to pass work your way! Be specific, ask about a particular subject, how can I help with their spelling? What can I do to help their adding? What vocabulary do they need for this topic? What sounds are they finding hard...

9 Don't moan in front of the children

We are all allowed to have a moan—I know I did about my children's schools (only occasionally)

Don't let the children hear, they listen to everything and it shapes their view of school. We must be a team and be seen to be a team.



10 Remember...

We want the same as you! Happy, safe children who learn and work hard. A school where kindness is the default and our school family is united.

We may not always get it right, but we never, ever set out to get it wrong.