

The St Nicholas Post

Dear All,

25th October 2024

We have come to the end of a very busy and productive term in school. The children know more than they did 8 weeks ago, they have read tens of thousands of words and completed thousands of calculations, they have been wartime historians, space explorers, biology brainiacs, woodland warriors, wrigglers and crawlers and some have even been on a road trip in the USA! Importantly, the children have all demonstrated our Christian values: courage, resilience, honesty and kindness in every element of school life, being the best they can be!

We are so proud of the effort they put into their learning and we are looking forward to this continuing! We have included a very small taster of some of the excellent things that have been going on here at St Nicks, later in the newsletter.

One of our key aims is 'Every Child a Reader', the progress the children are making with this is excellent and it supports every area of the curriculum. We want to ensure that this doesn't dip during holiday times and as such **every child will come home with a reading challenge to complete.** Please encourage your children to complete these, it is working in partnership with you that will see your child achieve their very best outcomes. Thank you for all your continued support, have a fabulous break.

Mrs Kennedy

Autumn Reading Challenge

Make the most of those cosy Autumn days, foster a love for reading and to promote a reading culture between school and home. This challenge will come home with your child today. Copies can be found here:

[Reception Reading Challenge](#)

[KS1 Reading Challenge](#)

[KS2 Reading Challenge](#)



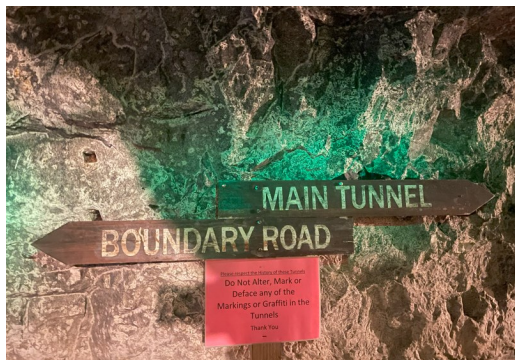
Containing a variety of activities that the children can dip into to fit around your own family plans, we hope this Reading Challenge will inspire you and your child to explore new worlds, develop vocabulary, and encourage lifelong learning. So why not curl up with a book and a delicious hot chocolate and go on an adventure!

All children that take part in the Reading Challenge will be rewarded with house points and the chance to win a £10 National Book token. We wish you and your family a restful half term break filled with many memorable reading moments!

Mrs Bullard, English Lead :)

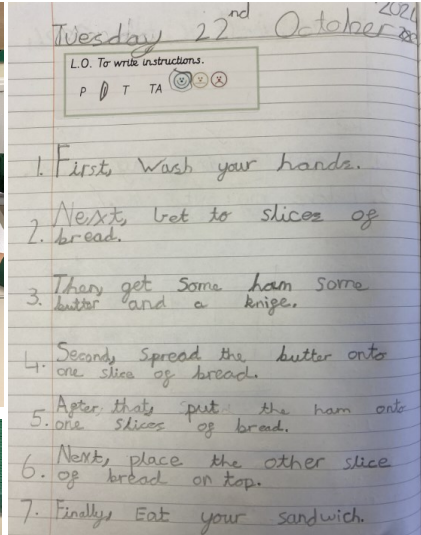
Ramsgate Tunnels and Spitfire Museum

Year 5 embarked on a trip back into the 1940s, visiting the Ramsgate Tunnels and the RAF and Spitfire Museums in Manston. They journeyed into the dark, damp depths beneath Ramsgate town, getting a glimpse of what war was like in our local area. They witnessed living, sleeping, and toilet arrangements, discussing the sights, sounds, and emotions of what was happening above, and below, the ground. Later, they travelled over to the Manston museums, where they were able to explore the cockpits of planes, going on learning about the roles of the Spitfire and Hurricanes. They finished their day with a ride in the flight simulator. I am glad to report they all managed to land safely! A great day of learning took place and the children were visibly exhausted at the end of the day!



Seymour's Seaside Picnic!

Year 2 have really enjoyed reading 'Seymour's Seaside Picnic' this term. We decided to plan our own picnic and worked really hard to write clear instructions on how to make the best sandwich. With the help of some of the adults we followed our instructions and made our own sandwiches. There was only one thing left to do; eat them!



The children have been working from the story by former St Nicks Pupil Penny Byrne. After having her in to read the book to the children it seemed the perfect choice to complement their topic Beachcombers!

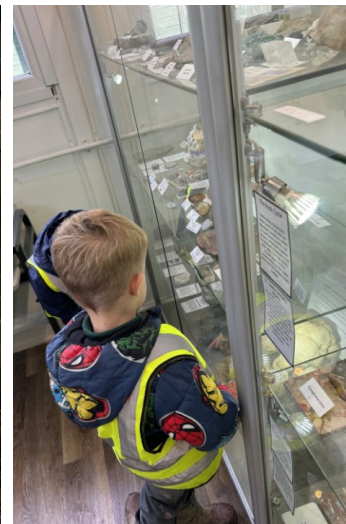
The Allotments are Autumn Ready!

The harvest of September has made way for autumn planting—the allotments are now growing again only this time with cabbages and spouts, broccoli and leeks. All fantastic opportunities for our children to experience first hand how much work goes into farming and producing food. Thank you to our Ecco Ambassadors and their leader Mrs Hall :)



Year 1's Monken Nature Reserve Adventure!

The children thoroughly enjoyed their visit to Monken Nature Reserve. They got completely engrossed in all the activities which included: brass rubbings, making windchimes, fairy hunts (with animal masks of course, so as not to scare away the fairies!) visiting the museum, playing in the mud kitchen and making leaf ID Dials. We are delighted to be working closely with the Nature Reserve. This collaboration enriches our curriculum significantly, providing our students with invaluable opportunities to immerse themselves in nature. The outdoor learning experiences foster personal growth and an appreciation for the environment, greatly enhancing their educational journey.



Parents Evening

A massive thank you to you all for attending a really successful evening. It is lovely to open the doors to school and really have some time to give you a glimpse into your child's life, here at St Nicholas. We know that you are the most important influence in your child's life so working together is so important. We also know that it is a huge responsibility and privilege to teach, and we take that very seriously, so the wonderful feedback that you have left was really gratefully received. We will of course continue to work to the same high standards that we hold the children to, constantly being reflective to be the best we can be.



Our School Dog: Pippa

For those of you who haven't met Pippa, our lovely school dog who works alongside Miss Baptiste, we wanted to let you know that she's around the school on Mondays and Thursdays! Pippa enjoys working with individual children and groups, and we're excited to announce that she'll also be popping into classrooms during story time. If you think your child would benefit from some time with Pippa, please don't hesitate to have a chat with us. We believe that having a school dog can bring a lot of joy and support to our students!

We have so much to be thankful for!

Firstly **thank you to Mr Hassan** for our new 'No Parking Signs' It was a lovely surprise to see them sitting proudly on the corners of Bridges close and they have been very effective at keeping this junction clearer and safer for children crossing. We love the St Nicks uniform on the children in the sign too :)



Thank you too to Mr O'Connell for donating and delivering wood chippings to spread out over the play area and—this really helps our school look ship shape as well as cutting down muddy footprints :) Thank you To **Ms Allaway** for helping clear the allotment area and getting everything ready for new planting—your help and company was really appreciated :)



Value Champion Jacob and Jenson

Well done to Jacob and Jenson for their hard work in obtaining their belts in Taekwondo. It takes a lot of courage and commitment, resilience and determination to work your way through. Keep it up boys we are proud of you. :)



It's who
we are!



Key dates—Term 2

Mon 4 th Nov	Start of Term 2
Mon 4 th Nov	Flu Vaccinations
Wed 6 th Nov	Reception Writing Workshop for Parents (2:30pm & 5:30pm)
Fri 8 th Nov	School Discos: Yr 1, 2 & 3- 3:15-4:15pm. Yr 4, 5 & 6: 4:30-5:30pm
Sat 9 th Nov	New Intake Open Day
Thu 14 th Nov	Year 6 Trip to Kent Life
Fri 15 th Nov	Children In Need Day
Mon 18 th Nov	Reception & Year 6 Height and Weight Screenings
Tue 19 th Nov	Year 1 & 2 Writing Workshop for Parents (2:30pm & 5:30pm)
Wed 20 th	Reception & Year 1 Bikeability Training
Fri 6 th Dec	PTFA Christmas Event (2- 3:30pm)
Sun 8 th Dec	St Nicholas Day Choir Concert, at Canterbury Cathedral
Tue 10 th Dec	Year 6 Christmas Unwrapped
Thu 12 th Dec	PTFA Christmas Pop up Shop
Mon 16 th Dec	Infant Nativity (9:30am & 1:30pm)
Tue 17 th Dec	Panto. Whole School Trip to The Malthouse Theatre
Wed 18 th Dec	Christmas Dinner Day
Fri 20 th Dec	End of Term 2
6 th Jan	Start of term 3



PTFA Dates

Friday 8 November Non uniform donations:

Years R,1,2&3 Chocolate item

Year 4 Sweets

Year 5&6 Bottle of Booze



Friday 8 November School Discos

Years 1, 2 & 3: 3.15 - 4.15pm

Years 4, 5 & 6: 4.30 - 5.30pm

Tickets £5 via school money app

includes temporary tattoo, 2 packets of sweets,
& drink (fruit shoot or juice carton)

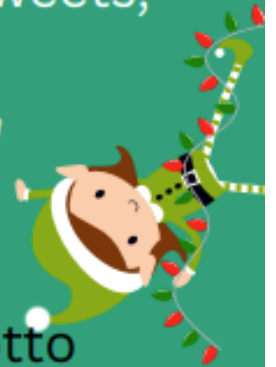
Children do not need to bring any money with them



Friday 6 December

Christmas Event 2 - 3.30pm

Fun for the family, Elf trail & Santa grotto
& our Christmas Raffle Draw!



Thursday 12 December Christmas Pop Up Shop

Within school time,

Children will have the opportunity to buy pre wrapped gifts for family ready for Christmas

