

The St Nicholas Post

23.05.25

Dear All,

Happy half term! We have come to the end of our shortest term, one that has seen lots of activity, assessments and hard work. We continue to be proud of the efforts of the children in their learning and in their behaviour and attitudes towards everything they do. I have been enormously grateful for all your positive feedback on our recent Ofsted report and I want to, once again, acknowledge your part in making St Nicks such a special place. Our shared aims for the children and our partnership mean that we achieve more together than we could alone! Your trust in us to nurture and educate the most precious people in your world, is a responsibility we take very seriously. A reminder that we have an inset day on Monday 2nd so children return on Tuesday 3rd, I hope you have a wonderful break :)

Mrs Kennedy

The Wonderful World of Art


We are delighted to share that the recent art exhibitions have been nothing short of fabulous. What a great way to showcase our children's extraordinary talents! It has been a genuine pleasure to open our doors to parents, allowing our students the opportunity to proudly present their masterpieces. The joy on their faces as they explained their work was truly heart-warming. Thank you to Mr Ford, our Art Lead, for his dedication and effort in making this event possible.



Half Term English Challenge



Write an acrostic poem using the word sand or sandcastle.



Write this poem up in your best handwriting




Best wishes from St. Nicholas
Colour an ice-cream for every day that you read over the holiday. Can you colour them all? Then, colour each picture as you complete each task.


CEREAL Noun Hunt!
How many nouns (place, person or thing words e.g. table, road, John, milk) can you find on a cereal box? Cut them out and stick them on paper to make a collage.



Design a badge
Can you draw your idea for a badge that best represents summer and reading to you. The winning design will be featured in the next edition of The Reading Rocket.




KS2




Best wishes from St. Nicholas
Colour an ice-cream for every day that you read over the holiday. Can you colour them all?

S
A
N
D

Write an acrostic poem using the word sand or sandcastle.




KS1



Write this poem up in your best handwriting

Design a badge
Can you draw your idea for a badge that best represents summer and reading to you. The winning design will be featured in the next edition of The Reading Rocket.




Your Name: _____
Your Class: _____

Use the space opposite to write a postcard to somebody about your holiday. What have been your best moments and why? Don't forget to use exciting vocabulary to make it interesting to read.
Draw a picture of yourself having fun.



Please can you encourage your children to complete the English challenge that came home with them on Friday. This will really help them to keep up the momentum they have worked so hard to gain. We know that children who develop good attitudes now to home learning, continue to be self motivated learners as they move through their lives.

'Our actions become our habits, our habits become our character, our character is who we are' Let's help them develop great habits, by building on the solid rock. :)



Times Tables

Just a quick note on the importance of quick and accurate recall of times tables—it really does support every area of mathematics. I highly recommend using Times Tables Rock Stars (TTRS), as it's a brilliant resource that the children absolutely love. It helps them enormously in mastering these crucial skills! Please encourage your little ones to practice regularly, as it makes a big difference.



Fire Pit Treat



Year 4 pupils will be taking their Multiplication Check when we return after the break. This national test measures children's aptitude across the country.

A firepit treat for **increased activity on the TTRS** platform has been promised to the children. We need to see every child log onto the

platform and be practising for an average time of 10 minutes a day. let's all do our best to prepare! Happy practising!



Thank you to Mr Buckley who delivered a fantastic assembly on the importance of bees, for World Bee Day! We learnt so much about these incredible insects and their vital role in our ecosystem. From pollination to honey production, the information was both fascinating and eye-opening.

Big thanks too to Mrs Hall for the honeycomb treats in the staffroom :)



Key Dates—Term 6

2 nd June	Inset Day- SCHOOL CLOSED
5 th June	PTFA Father's Day Shop
5 th June	Rabbi Cliff to see Yr 1 & Yr 6
5 th June	St Nicks Earth Day
6 th June	Year 5 Marlowe Theatre Trip to see Pig Heart Boy
9 th – 13 th June	Year 6 Residential Trip
12 th June	Year 5 STEAM Trip at Chatham & Clarendon
12 th June	Year 5 Secondary Admissions talk and Residential (5pm in the Hall)
17 th June	Yr 5 & Yr 6 TDC Beach Day
18 th June	New Intake Parents Meeting
20 th June	Staff vs Children Netball Match
20 th June	Sports Day and Family picnic. 12am school field (details to follow)
25 th June	New Intake Teddy Bears Picnic
26 th June	Vision Screening for Reception
26 th June	Yr 6 Monkton Nature Reserve Trip
27 th June	Yr 5 & 6 Swimming at Joy Lane (Selected children)
27 th June	Kent Police visit Yr 6 for Transition Talk
2 nd July	Samba Workshop
3 rd July	Transition Day
3 rd July	New Intake Stay & Play
4 th July	Yr 5 & 6 Swimming at Joy Lane (Selected children)
4 th July	PTFA Summer Fair (pm)
8 th July	Yr 3 Trip to Monkton Nature Reserve
10 th July	EYFS Monkton Nature Reserve Trip
10 th July	Yr 6 Production 6pm
11 th July	Yr 5 & 6 Swimming at Joy Lane (Selected children)
11 th July	Ice Cream Van visiting for children
14 th July	Reports sent home
17 th July	Music Recital 1:30 pm Main Hall (invitations to follow)
18 th July	Year 6 Graduation at St Nicholas at Wade Church at 9:30am
18 th July	End of Term 6- 2pm Finish

HALF TERM AT THE RESERVE MAY 2025



MAY

TUESDAY 27TH

11AM POND DIPPING Beneath the surface of the water, there is an unseen world waiting to be discovered. Watch out for the alien-like Dragonfly nymphs, or huge, Great diving beetles.

1PM Ladybird Lairs and Butterfly Bars

Build your own ladybird house for them to shelter in.

Create a feeding flower for butterflies using a stick, card, bottle top, and sugar water. Hunt for butterflies on the reserve. How many different species can you find?

THURSDAY 29TH, 11AM BOX BUNNIES We have plenty of cheeky bunnies on the reserve that like to munch on orchids (which is why we try and protect these delicate flowers using cages). This craft session captures bunnies' portraits using egg boxes and your imagination.

11.30AM WILD CLASSROOM The welcome return of this popular, open fire cooking experience. A chance to cook a tasty, spring vegetable stir fry, together, outdoors, over fire.

1PM BIG BUG HUNT The hunt is on! What will you find in the Education Garden and beyond. A bee fly? A millipede? A ladybird? Bug pots & ID sheets supplied.

FRIDAY 30TH, 11AM DANDELION DISCOVERY This yellow, spring flower, is loved by beetles, butterflies and bees. Discover its charm and powers. Write with its 'invisible ink', make dandelion paint, and white and yellow pom pom flowers.

1PM POND DIPPING (See above)



HOW TO BOOK

www.monkton-reserve.org/events/

Visit our museum, café, gift, and book shops.

MORE INFO:

education@monkton-reserve.org

PRICE PER CHILD

Members: £3

Non-Members: £5

(incl. entrance to the reserve)

Wild Classroom

Members: £9.00

Non-Members: £15.00

WHERE

Monkton Nature Reserve
Canterbury Road
Ramsgate CT12 4LH

WWW.MONKTON-RESERVE.ORG

THANET COUNTRYSIDE TRUST
(CHARITY NO: 1211099)

St Nicholas At Wade PTFA Summer Term events

Thank you for supporting our events so far this year.
The upcoming events for the summer term are:

Frozen Fridays

Weather dependent - ice creams & ice lollies
cash or card payments

See messages for when we will be selling ice creams!

Thursday 5 June: Father's Day Shop

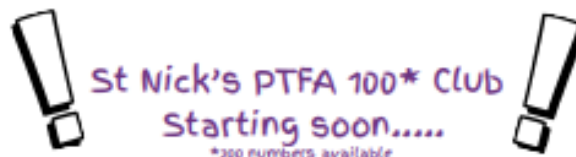
Gifts available for children to buy for dads, grandads, uncles etc.
Cash in named envelope with list of who to buy for

Friday 4 July: Summer Event & Raffle

Our annual summer event, including the summer raffle draw,
tombolas, refreshments and inflatable fun!

Wristbands will be available to buy via school money app
for inflatables nearer to the event.

WE NEED LOTS OF PARENT VOLUNTEERS PLEASE
30 minute slots so plenty of time to be with your own children too



Join for £24 per number and be in with a chance of
winning a cash prize each term!

Prize fund will be 50% of all ticket sales so if all
numbers are sold, the annual prize fund will be £2,400!!
Remaining 50% of ticket sales is fundraising for PTFA
- used to benefit St Nicholas At Wade children
More info coming soon. Who will be the first winner?

Ordering name labels? Remember to use our
code so we can earn the commission please!



The PTFA is a registered charity
Would your employer make a donation?
Could you fundraise for us?

Funded by PTFA January - April 2025

£5,500 towards the new
playground equipment.

In addition to our
fundraising we received
grants towards this from:
The Neal Foundation Fund
& The Gibbons Family Trust



Book Week - Drama workshops & reading cafe's

£420 for new book storage in KS2
£500 for fluency books



St Nicholas At Wade PTFA How you can help?

Volunteers Needed - Parents, Grandparents.....

The PTFA can only run events if we have enough adult volunteers.
If you can volunteer at any of the events then please let the office know
or contact Kayleigh (Chair)
We are a registered charity so your workplace may have a volunteering policy too?
As a friends of association we welcome parents, grandparents and friends to
volunteer at events - even just for 30 minutes! It all makes a difference.

Raffle prizes

Can you help us with a raffle prize?
Do you work for a business that is able to donate a raffle prize?
Please contact Elise or Kayleigh if you can help with this.
Our next raffle is on Friday 4 July 2025

Ideas?

Got an idea for an event or fundraising?
Then let us know...
Join the whatsapp group - QR code here:
Join our next meeting on 4 June 8.15pm



Preloved uniform

Our preloved uniform is a great way to support the PTFA
and also the environment.
Donations can be made to the school office.
Ralls will be out at various events but if you need something then please ask

Gift bags

We really need gift bags for our pop up shops - Christmas. or other themes.
Please drop into the school office at any point in the year.



PTFA
PARENTS, TEACHERS & FRIENDS
ASSOCIATION
ST NICHOLAS AT WADE

Mother's Day
SHOP

THANK YOU
WE RAISED £558
FROM THE SHOP



St Nicholas At Wade
Winning Ticket Chocolate Bars

Thank you! We Raised over £150

Prizes were donated by the following businesses:

Books from:
Blend Coffee, Birchington
R C Wale & Son, Birchington
Little Green Bookshop, Herne Bay
Rhythm Express Performing Arts
Waterstones, Thanet branch

£10 book vouchers from:
Dynamic Gas Plumbing & Heating
Build Up Construction

St Nicholas At Wade
PTFA
PARENTS, TEACHERS & FRIENDS
ASSOCIATION



ST NICHOLAS AT WADE PTFA

QUIZ NIGHT

THANK YOU!

We raised £375 at the quiz night held
in January
With thanks to Dawn & Dave for
hosting the evening
and to the teams that took part



**We Raised
a TOTAL OF
£244.11**

**FOR ST NICHOLAS AT
WADE PTFA**

THANK YOU FOR
YOUR SUPPORT

**CASHPOT
FOR
SCHOOLS**

THAT'S
ASDA
PRICE

in partnership with
Parentkind

Registered charity number 211833. ASDA and its company are trading under license agreement with ASDA.

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.