



9th December 2025

Dear All,

Welcome to the last two weeks of school before Christmas! I know that your lives – much like ours here at school – have suddenly become very busy. We hope this newsletter offers a welcome pause, giving you a moment to sit down and enjoy some of the wonderful things happening in school, as well as reminding you of the key events taking place during this festive season.

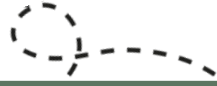
Best Wishes
Mrs Kennedy

Little Buttercups Shine in Balance-Ability!

We are so proud of our lovely Little Buttercups, who have been working hard and having great fun during their Balance-Ability sessions! The children have been learning how to use balance bikes—building confidence, coordination, and a real sense of achievement as they glide, steer, and balance their way around. It has been wonderful to watch their determination, teamwork, and big smiles as they master new skills. Each child has shown fantastic progress, and we couldn't be more delighted with their enthusiasm and bravery.

Well done, Buttercup, you're riding towards great things!





A Mexican Party!

As part of their topic Hola Mexico!, Year 5 have been exploring the Mayan civilisation and modern Mexico. They enjoyed an exciting trip to Kent Life, where they experienced what life was like in ancient Maya.

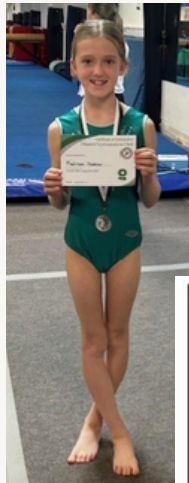
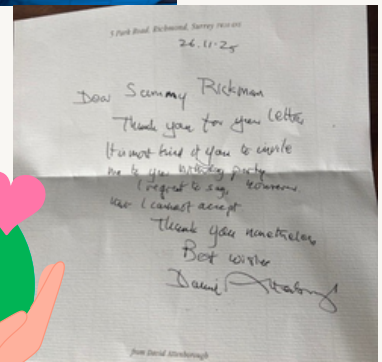
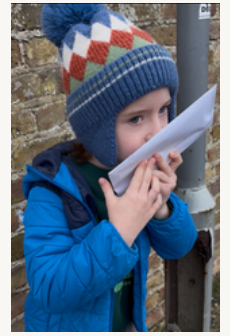
This week, the celebrations continued with a Mexican fiesta! The children designed their own invitations and prepared a delicious feast of quesadillas, guacamole and salsa. I was very kindly invited to taste the party food and I must say, it was a real taste sensation! I can see Mr Neal managed to sneak an invitation too!



Value Champions

Value Champion Samuel

We are really proud of you for being so kind! You show amazing kindness to our planet—taking care of it and helping wherever you can. We know that your hero, David Attenborough, would be incredibly proud of everything you do. It was so thoughtful of you to invite him to your party, and what a wonderful thing it was to write to him—and for him to write back to you! Keep loving nature and wildlife!



Value Champion Madison

A huge well done to Madison who took part in the Thanet Gymnastics competition with great enthusiasm and excitement. We are delighted to share that she finished joint second, earning her very first silver medal and certificate!

She had so much fun, striving to be the best she can be, and we are incredibly proud of her as is her family who shared this wonderful achievement!



Choir at the Cathedral

Our school choir had the tremendous honour of performing at Canterbury Cathedral for the annual St Nicholas Service. The children sang beautifully in the stunning surroundings of the cathedral, filling the space with warmth, and festive spirit. We are incredibly proud of each and every one of our talented choir members. Thank you to the wonderful Mrs Palmer who works so hard to make sure these events happen and that the children are prepared and ready to be their best selves. [Click here to watch a recording of the service on the Cathedral's Youtube Channel.](#)



Life of an Attendance Ted!

Ted has had a fabulous week in Primrose but it's time to move to Bluebells :)



Attendance Matters!		
	Days lost this week:	Overall attendance:
Buttercup	2	98.3%
Bluebell	2	98.7%
Primrose	12 ½	91.3%
Willow	4	96.8%
Beech	3 ½	97.7%
Acer	8 ½	94%
Oak	7	95.5%

Well done Bluebell Class
You get Attendance Ted for a week!



Thank you to our fabulous PTFA who have, as usual, given the children (and adults!) a fantastic afternoon at the Christmas fair. Your hard work doesn't go un-noticed and it provides much needed funding that makes such a difference.

Smartphone Free Childhood

At St Nicholas, we are committed to giving the children the very best start in life, where they learn to build on solid foundations. That's why we're supporting a growing grassroots movement called Smartphone Free Childhood. We've all been put in an impossible position, including families, schools – and children themselves – when it comes to smartphones. The pressure to hand one over seems to come earlier and earlier, but the truth is, so many of us feel uneasy about it. We want to let you know: if you've ever felt that tug in your gut – the "is this too soon?" feeling – you're not alone. You're in good company.

It's not a top-down campaign. It's a bottom-up one, driven by families, carers, teachers, and children – all trying to figure this out together. It's about creating healthier childhoods, and giving kids the chance to learn, grow and thrive, free from the pull of addictive algorithms and 24/7 internet in their pockets.

We are very fortunate that we do not currently have a wave of phones coming into school, and this puts us in a strong position. Our motivation for joining this initiative is to show our solidarity with you as families and to start building healthy habits now – before our children reach secondary school, where the pressures surrounding smartphones can become much greater.

As a school, we are thinking carefully about how this will look in practice and how we can support our whole community in making positive, confident choices. We will be sharing more information with you very soon.

You may have seen the recent news that Australia has taken a bold step by banning social media access for children under 16. This landmark decision highlights a serious commitment to protecting young people from the growing risks of the online world. Many believe it's time for our own government to show the same level of leadership. **Stronger protections for children online shouldn't be optional – they should be a national priority.**

If you want to add your voice to the growing call for action, you can support this effort by signing and sharing the petition below:

[Ban Social Media for Under-16s to Protect Children](#)

We're part of the



SMARTPHONE FREE CHILDHOOD
Schools Network

What's going on...



Our PTFA Christmas Shop is a wonderful opportunity for children to choose and purchase wrapped gifts for family and friends. With gifts starting at just a couple of pounds, it's an affordable and joyful way for children to experience the excitement of giving to others. This much-loved event helps foster independence, thoughtfulness, and the true spirit of Christmas.

Hot Chocolate Friday!

Delicious hot chocolate with whipped cream and marshmallows will be on sale after school on **Friday 12th December.**

This is not just any hot Chocolate... this is St Nick's hot chocolate



Co-Op Local Community Fund

St Nicholas At Wade PTFA is part of the Co-Op Local Community Fund. This means you can help support our school every time you shop at Co-Op – at no extra cost to you. To find out more about our project and to choose us as your cause, simply [click here](#).



Courage, Resilience, Honesty, Kindness, Be the Best you Can Be



Key Dates

Key dates—Term 2	
Mon 8 th Dec	Reception & Year 6 NCMP
Fri 12 th Dec	PTFA Christmas Shop
Fri 12 th Dec	PTFA 100 Club Draw
Mon 15 th Dec	Infant Nativity
Tues 16 th Dec	Whole School Panto Trip at Marlowe Theatre
Weds 17 th Dec	Christmas Jumper Day
Weds 17 th Dec	Christmas Dinner Day
Thurs 18 th Dec	Secret Santa Book Swap
Fri 19 th Dec	KS2 Carol Concert
Fri 19 th Dec	End of Term 2- 2pm finish
Term 3	
Mon 5 th Jan	Start of Term 3
Thurs 15 th Jan	Census Day
Fri 16 th Jan	Kent Fire & Rescue Talks
Mon 19 th Jan	Yr 3 Viking Workshop
Weds 28 th Jan	Open Afternoon
Fri 30 th Jan	PTFA Quiz Night
Fri 6 th Feb	PTFA 100 Club Draw
Mon 9 th Feb	PTFA St Nicks Bake off
Tues 10 th Feb	Safer Internet Day
Fri 13 th Feb	End of Term 3

