



The St Nicholas Post



27th February 2026

Dear All,

We are very much looking forward to a drier and sunnier term (fingers crossed!) as this will mean the field can reopen – yay!

At St Nicholas, we take children's free play very seriously and see it as a vital part of the school day. Play offers rich opportunities for children to negotiate, compromise, collaborate, take risks, develop resilience, and enjoy agency over their time and choices. It allows them to explore, be curious and develop important social skills in a natural and meaningful way.

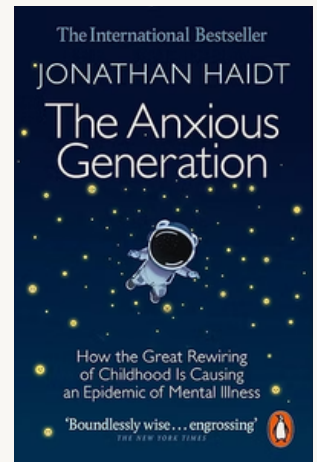
As part of our ongoing commitment to making the most of our outdoor spaces, we are excited to introduce our new Bramble Bistro (mud kitchen) for our older children, as well as a brand-new Quidditch pitch. We cannot wait to see the creativity, teamwork and imagination these spaces will inspire!

Mrs Kennedy

Smartphone Free Childhood

Thank you to those of you that have signed up to this initiative – it's not too late to do it if you haven't already – please [click here](#) for more information.

I am currently reading [The Anxious Generation](#) by [Jonathan Haidt](#), which has further strengthened my determination to help move children towards a play-based childhood rather than a device-based one – a key theme explored in the book.



It is a thought-provoking and compelling read, highlighting some of the challenges facing young people today in a digital world. While it is not always easy to confront these realities, doing so feels like an important step in reclaiming and protecting childhood.

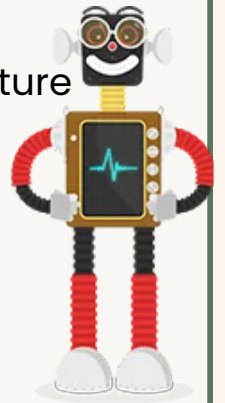
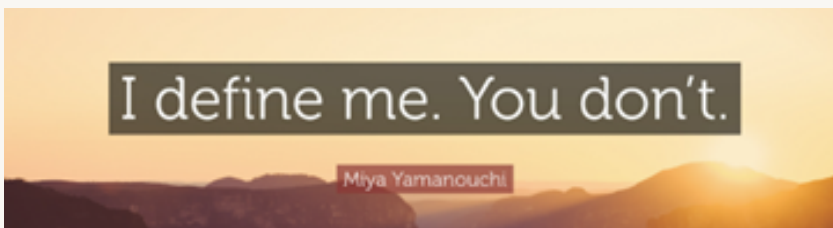
I would wholeheartedly recommend it to any parent interested in understanding more about the impact of smartphones and social media on children's wellbeing.

I would also like to invite you to a Play Based Childhood workshop for parents on Wednesday 18th March at 2.30pm and 5.30pm.

Heartsmart: Don't Hold on to What's Wrong

This term in PSHE, we are exploring the importance and power of forgiveness - understanding that forgiveness is not just something we offer to others, but something that protects and strengthens our own hearts. When we hold on to anger, hurt or unkind words, it can weigh us down. Learning to let go helps us to feel lighter, healthier and more at peace, and it allows us to live more harmoniously with those around us. At St Nicholas, we teach the children that the old saying, "words can never hurt me," is not something that happens automatically, it is something we work towards. Words can hurt, but we can build resilience. We help children develop a strong sense of self-worth so that the opinions and unkind actions of others do not define who they are.

We encourage kindness in all that we do and hope for kindness in return. However, when others are unkind, we remind our children that this will not defeat them, diminish them or make them crumble. They know their value. They know who they are. They strive to be the very best version of themselves. Through forgiveness, resilience and self-belief, we nurture healthy hearts and confident individuals.



We teach the children that mistakes are a natural part of life. They will make mistakes in their learning and in their personal development - and so will we all. What matters most is how we respond to them. We encourage children to take accountability when they get it wrong, and a key part of this is offering a sincere apology.

We also guide children in how to respond when someone apologises. Rather than replying with "That's okay," we encourage them to say:

- "Thank you for your apology, I forgive you."
- "I accept your apology, thank you."
- "I need some time right now, can we try this again later?"

We do this because we want our children to develop a strong sense of self-worth. It is not "okay" for someone to treat them badly, so we do not minimise unkind behaviour. At the same time, we recognise that everyone makes mistakes. Just as we hope to be forgiven, we teach our children to forgive and not "hold on to what's wrong."

EYFS Westgate Trip

As part of our topic "Who Are You Going to Call?", Year R enjoyed a wonderful trip this week. The children travelled by bus to Westgate Fire Station, where they explored the station, looked inside the fire engine, and asked lots of thoughtful questions.

They then walked to the library, used their library cards to choose books, and listened to a story. On the way, the children also posted their Mother's Day cards before catching the bus back to school.

It was a fantastic day full of learning, curiosity, and excitement! The children behaved beautifully.

Thank you to all our volunteer helpers.

We have had some lovely feedback from the Firefighters saying thank you to Buttercups class for their enthusiasm, outstanding behaviour and constant engagement! They are a credit to our school.



Year 6 Safety in Action Trip

Year 6 attended Safety in Action, where they took part in a series of workshops designed to help them stay safe as they move on to the next chapter of their lives.

The sessions covered road, fire, rail and online safety, as well as first aid and other important topics. Throughout the day, the children engaged in practical, interactive activities led by professionals, helping them to understand how to respond safely in a variety of real-life situations.

They represented the school brilliantly and demonstrated maturity, enthusiasm and excellent listening skills in every session.



Value Champion

Value Champion Theo

Theo, we are incredibly proud of your hard work, dedication and courage in kickboxing. Competing well above your age is a huge achievement, and you have proven yourself to be a formidable opponent every time you step into the ring.

Your success is a reflection of the commitment, resilience and hours of practice you consistently put in. Keep pushing yourself and striving for greatness.



SIAMs Report

I am really pleased to be able to share our final report following our recent SIAMs inspection. It is a fabulous report crammed with positive reflections of our school community and culture. I have bulleted a few headlines that stood out here:

- A deeply embedded Christian vision that is clearly lived out and enables both pupils and adults to flourish.
- Compassionate, reflective leadership that understands and serves its community exceptionally well.
- A nurturing, inclusive culture of respect and kindness where everyone feels valued and cared for.
- Collective worship at the heart of school life, strongly supporting spiritual growth and a sense of belonging.
- A rich, inclusive and aspirational curriculum that builds confident, resilient and responsible learners.
- Strong support for all pupils, including those with additional needs, ensuring every child can thrive.
- A powerful and mutually enriching partnership with the local church and wider community.
- High-quality Religious Education that develops knowledge, respect and curiosity about diverse faiths and worldviews.
- A strong culture of wellbeing where staff feel supported, valued and included.

[Find the full report here.](#)



Thank you PTFA for organising another successful Mother's Day Shop. The event gave the children a special opportunity to choose meaningful gifts for their loved ones. This builds on the work we do in school, where we encourage children to show gratitude to their families and understand the importance of giving back.

Community Library Plea for Help!

We're excited to announce plans to create a Community Library that will be proudly showcased at our school gates – a special space where families can take a book, leave a book, and share the joy of reading together.

To bring this project to life, we are reaching out to our wonderful parent community for support. In particular, we would love to hear from any parents or guardians who are carpenters, woodworkers, or handy with tools who might be willing to volunteer their skills and time to help us build the structure.

If you are able to assist with:

- Constructing the library box
- Donating suitable materials (weatherproof wood, paint, hinges, etc.)
- Offering design expertise
- Helping with installation

Please contact the school office. Your support would help us create something truly special for not only our children, but also our parent and neighbour community.

Thank you for helping us build not just a library, but a lasting love of reading!



Life of an Attendance Ted!

Ted had a wonderful holiday and is very pleased to be spending time in Beech class this week - well done Beech class on nearly hitting 100% this week!



World Book Day



World Book Day Thursday 5th March 2026



To celebrate World Book Day this year, the children have decided on a theme of 'Harry Potter'. We have an exciting range of Harry Potter activities for them to enjoy on the day and throughout the week. The children are of course, invited to come into school dressed as their favourite book character from any book, not just Harry Potter characters.

Monday 2nd March - Author visit - Kicking off the week, is a visit from local author Chris MacDonald, who will be reading from his latest book and working with Years 3-6 in writing activities.

Tuesday 3rd March - KS1 Reading cafe - 8.00 - 8.30am. The children and parents of KS1 are invited to visit the cafe in the hall to enjoy some reading activities together as well as enjoy a quick breakfast bite.

Wednesday 4th March - KS2 Reading cafe - 8.00 - 8.30am. The children and parents of KS2 are invited to come along to our cafe in the hall to enjoy some reading together and demonstrate their reading skills, as well as enjoy some of our delicious breakfast buffet.

Thursday 5th March - Dressing up. Children are invited to come to school dressed as a book character of their choice. This is **not limited to Harry Potter characters - they can come as any character they love.** Children will enjoy a variety of book and reading themed activities during the day with their class.

Looping the Loop Theatre Company will be leading the children in Harry Potter themed drama workshops throughout the day.

Book tokens - Children will receive their complimentary World Book Day token which can be exchanged for one of the special World Book Day books available from most good book stores.

THE MASKED READER



Due to overwhelming demand, The Masked Reader is back again in 2026! Unable to resist the lure of the Masked Reader, the staff have signed up once more for some World Book Day fun. Several members of staff have disguised themselves as 'The Masked Reader' and have been recorded reading the blurb of their favourite books. Are any the same as last year? Can you recognise your teacher? Why not see if you can spot who is behind the mask by watching the videos? These will be available to view in the week after the half-term holiday and can be found on the school website - look for the 'Video Resource Centre', under the 'Children' section of the site. The readers will be unmasked on World Book Day.

COMPETITION TIME - HARRY POTT-ATO HEADS

Children are invited to decorate a humble potato, with all the elements of their favourite Harry Potter character. You can use paints, crayons, fabric, glue, stickers and anything else you can lay your hands on, plus of course, the children's amazing imaginations. Entries should be brought into your child's class on 2nd March 2026, labelled with their name, as well as the name of the character. The Reading Influencers will judge all entries and award a first place prize to each year group. Winners will be announced on World Book Day.



Reading is the key to your next adventure

On Thursday 5th March, please can all children bring trainers in a bag for their Quidditch game in the afternoon. Thank you.

St Nicholas At Wade
Winning Ticket Chocolate Bars

Will you find a winning ticket?

Preorder your chocolate bar(s) for £2.50 each through school money app (Galaxy 100g bars) by Monday 2 March

On World book day, 5 March, chocolate bars will be handed out to those who have purchased - open the wrapper at home to see if you've won!

Prizes can be claimed from the office on Friday 6 March and include book vouchers, books & chocolate!

St Nicholas At Wade
PTFA
PARENTS, TEACHERS & FRIENDS ASSOCIATION

The PTFA Winning Ticket Chocolate Bars are available to purchase on Schoolmoney under the 'shop' tab. They will be available until Monday 2nd March.

Easter Events

Easter!
at St. Nicholas at Wade Church

You can celebrate all/any Lent Services with us, as overleaf.

Palm Sunday service starts with a procession from the Sun Pub, waving 'palm' leaves and led by a donkey!

You may wish to join the solemn Good Friday Service of the Cross at Minster.

Come along to our joyful exclamation of Happy Easter!
Easter Day Holy Communion at 10.30 followed by an Easter Egg hunt outside.

RSPCA WE'RE BACK! **RSPCA THANET'S**
EASTER Event!

HOP ON OVER & JOIN US ON
Friday 3rd April 2026
11am-3pm

RSPCA Isle of Thanet, Queensdown Road,
Woodchurch, CT7 0HG

Entry fee: £2 adults, £1 children. Extra fees for other activities will apply. This event is mainly cash only.
Like us on Facebook to follow this event

Craft & gift stalls
Meet the animals
Baffle & games
Easter egg hunt
Bake Sale
and much more...

Key Dates

Key Dates—Term 4

Mon 2 nd March	Yr 6 National Offer Day
	Chris Macdonald – Author Visit Years 3-6
	Year 2 Creepy Crawlies Visit
Tues 3 rd March	KS1 Reading Café
	Yr 5 Egyptian Workshop
	Netball Festival
Weds 4 th March	KS2 Reading Café
Thurs 5 th March	World Book Day
	Looping the Loop Theatre Group Visit
	PTFA Winning Ticket Chocolate Bars
Mon 9 th March	Dental Nurse visit to Reception class
Tues 10 th March	Yr 6 Easter Cracked at Church
	St Lawrence College Science & Engineering Challenge
	Emotional Wellbeing Team – Understanding Anxiety Workshop
Weds 11 th March	EYFS Maths Workshop- 2:30pm & 5:30pm
Fri 13 th March	Reception Hearing & Vision Screening
Sat 14 th March	Six Nations Rugby Tournament
Mon 16 th March	Yr 6 Lancaster Model Questionnaire
Weds 18 th March	Play Based Childhood Parent Workshop – 2.30pm & 5.30pm
Thurs 19 th March	Year 1-3 Scootability Training
Fri 20 th March	Red Nose Day
	Year 3 & 4 Church Visit
Tues 24 th March	Year 1 Church Visit
Weds 25 th March	Behaviour Workshop – 2.30pm & 5.30pm
Fri 27 th March	PTFA 100 Club Draw
	EYFS Church Visit with Rev. Russell
	Beth Cookson – Author visit Year 2
Mon 30 th March	Drama Sessions with Kic Theatre
Weds 1 st April	Parent Consultations (1.20-7pm)
Thurs 2 nd April	Easter Service at 9am
	PTFA Easter Egg Hunt at 2pm
	End of Term 4- 2pm Finish
Fri 3 rd April	Bank Holiday- SCHOOL CLOSED