

St Nicholas School Weekly Newsletter

Learning Together

Friday 14th
October 2022



Dear Parents,

We are nearing the end of our first half term at school. The staff and children have continued to work hard but are all looking forward to the half term break. We also welcomed our Reception Parents in this week for their first parents evening. It was lovely seeing you all.

Sensory Week: This week in school the staff and children had lots of fun celebrating Sensory Week. The children took part in many activities such as creating sensory bags using shaving foam and paint; threading spaghetti in colanders; rolling objects on bubble wrap; and exploring with flour, rice, peas and lentils. We also have some brightly dressed adults and children today and it is great seeing all of the hard effort that has been made. It was lovely seeing all of the children enjoying the different activities and they and the staff have worked extremely hard this week. I also want to say a huge thank you to Lisa Talbot, our Sensory Curriculum co-ordinator, for organising the week, collating the resources and sharing ideas.

Mencap Superhero Mufti Day: On Friday 21st October, we will have a mufti day for MENCAP. The theme for this day is Superhero Challenge and children are able to come to school in a superhero costume. If you do not have a superhero costume, you can be as creative as you wish and create your own, or the children can come in in their own clothes. We know there is a cost of living crisis and are not expecting parents to go out and buy costumes. If you are able to, we are collecting a £1 donation via Weduc for MENCAP – a charity that raises vital funds to support people with a learning disability.

Harvest: For harvest this year, we will be collecting food donations for the Purley Food Hub as well as our own community cupboard. Your class teacher will have informed you of what your child can donate. We are asking for 1 donation per child but if you wish to donate more, you are welcome to do so. Please send these in next week.

Important Dates:

Wednesday 19th October: Harvest celebration

Thursday 20th October: Flu vaccines

Friday 21st October: Mufti day for MENCAP

October 24th-October 28th: Half Term week

November 9th: Years 1-6 Parents evening

November 16th and 17th: School photos

Wednesday 30th November: M&M Productions 'A Christmas Carol'

December 8th and 9th: Christmas Shows

Wednesday 14th December: Christmas Lunch

Friday 16th December: Last day of term. Break up at 1:30



Bus Cancellations: Unfortunately, some bus routes to school have continued to be cancelled this week. If you are able to bring your child into school if this happens, you are welcome to do so. Drop off is between 8:40-9:00 and the children finish at 3:00pm. Please wait with your child at the pedestrian gate and a member of staff will come and collect them. At the end of the day, a staff member from their class will hand them over to you at the pedestrian gate. Please make sure that Croydon Transport have up to date contact information for you. You can do this by emailing: CTSOps@croydon.gov.uk. Due to staffing issues with transport, there are occasions the school are not informed of buses being late so please, as your first point of contact, contact transport by email, or their phone number you will have been provided, or the PA's number (if you have it).

We are just as frustrated about the issues with transport, but are limited as to what we can do. Although the school and especially the office staff will help wherever they can, transport is its own department and is solely run by Croydon Council.



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After School Clubs: We are looking to start some after school clubs this half term for children in years 3-6. We are hoping to start these after half term. A football club letter will go out on Monday for children in KS2.

School Uniform: Please make sure that all school uniform, coats, shoes, PE kit, book bag and lunchboxes are clearly named. It makes it so much easier when we find lost property around the school.

Parent Governors: Later on this term, one of our current Parent Governor terms of office will be expiring and so we will be looking for a new Parent Governor. Please have a think about whether you wish to join the Governing Body of our wonderful school. Please look out for further information about being a Governor on Weduc.

Absence reporting: If your child is absent due to illness or for a medical appointment, please can you message or phone the school office or message your class teacher via Weduc by 9am at the latest so that we can update all of the registers. Also if there is change to your child's afternoon pick up routine e.g. they are not to go home on the bus/taxi, you need to let the office know by 2:30pm at the latest.

Flu vaccine consent forms: These have all been sent home. If you wish your child to receive the flu vaccine, please complete and send back as soon as possible. Those children who have sent in their consent form will have their flu vaccine on Thursday 20th October.

Message from the office: Please make sure you top up your dinner money weekly.

Also, if you select your child's lunches each day, please makes sure it is something that you know they like. At the lunch hatch, children are given the lunch they have ordered which can result in some tears if it isn't what they wanted. As part of their Early Morning Routine, we also encourage the children to select the lunch they want with the pictures that are on Weduc .

Communicating with the school: Please use Weduc to communicate with your class teacher in the first instance. Parents in Key Stage 1 can also contact Gaynor Pilbeam and in Key Stage 2 Vanessa Bryan. If you have any admin enquires e.g. school dinner payments etc, you can contact Natalie Doherty in the office.



Spider class created a lovely Sensory Display. One of our year 4 children dressed in bright colours.

I hope you all have a lovely weekend
Many Thanks
Katie Goodwin
Head Teacher

