

# St Nicholas School Weekly Newsletter

*Learning Together*

Friday 11th  
November 2022



Dear Parents,

It was lovely seeing many of you at Parents Evening this week for Years 1-6. I hope you all enjoyed meeting your child's teacher and seeing the excellent work they have been doing. You all should have received their Pupil Passport as well. Please speak to the class teacher if there are any problems.

**Road Safety Week:** The week beginning Monday 14<sup>th</sup> November, we will celebrate Road Safety Week here at school. The theme is 'Safe Roads for all'. The children will be doing lots of activities in class such as brightening a bag or scooter so it can be seen, practising to cross the road safely as well as singing some road safety songs. At home, we are also encouraging parent to send in photos of their child out and about crossing the road safely or using a sustainable mode of transport e.g. walking, cycling or riding a scooter. There will also be a mufti on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> November where the theme is 'Be Bright Be Seen'.

**Online Safety and Parental Controls:** The Ofcom report "[Children and Parents: media use and attitudes 2022](#)" found that 99% of children aged 3-17 in 2021 went online and the majority used a mobile phone (72%) or tablet (69%) to do so. The report also found that a quarter of all parents asked didn't use any parental controls at all on any of the devices their children use. At St Nicholas we would like to support you to keep your child safe online. A parent survey about what devices your children use is in the forms section of Weduc. Please complete this so that I can gain a better understanding of how to help. There will also be online safety information included in the school newsletters. However, in the meantime, I would like to signpost you to [internetmatters.org](http://internetmatters.org) where you can find step-by-step guides to setting up Parental Controls on popular devices, apps and broadband providers. You can also answer a few questions about your child's online activity and get a personalised toolkit for improving online safety in your home. If you need any further support with setting parental controls on your child's devices, please message Abbie McQueeney on WeDuc, or ask your child's class teacher to speak to me. Abbie McQueeney, Computing Leader

### Important Dates:

**November 14<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup>:** Road Safety Week

**November 15<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>:** Calls to year 5 parents re Secondary School Placements

**November 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>:** School photos

**November 18<sup>th</sup> :** Mufti to end Road Safety Week – 'Be bright Be Seen'.

**Friday 25<sup>th</sup> November:** Deadline for Parent Governor Nominations

**Friday 25<sup>th</sup> November:** Mufti Day – wear a football kit/sports kit

**Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> November and Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> November:** Winter Crafts

**Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> November:** M&M Productions 'A Christmas Carol'

**December 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>:** Christmas Shows

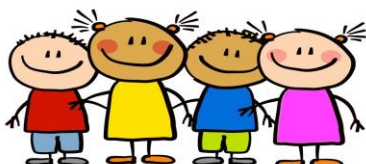
**Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> December:** Christmas Lunch

**Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December:** Last day of term. Break up at 1:30

**Parent Governor Elections:** Parent Governor Nominations are now live. If you would like to nominate yourself or another parent, please do so by Friday 25<sup>th</sup> November.

**OT and SaLT update:** Some good news on our provision for OT and SaLT. We have a new OT therapist from the NHS who will primarily be working with Key Stage 1 children and supporting any OT in the community requests. Her name is Erica Blatchford Geffen. She will continue to work with Juliet who is the OT Assistant. Erica has asked that whilst she is getting to know the school and the children, please can any communication to her go via your child's class teacher. Aniesa Blore will continue to work with Key Stage 2.

We have also recruited Beth Gentry Hobson as a full time Salt Lead at St Nicholas and she will commence her role here in January 2023. She will be working with Zara Rafiqui. Beth and I will be sitting together over the next couple of weeks and discussing how we can further develop communication at St Nicholas School. Beth is also keen to hold a coffee morning for parents which we will book on for the Spring Term.



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**Children in Need:** The week of Monday 21<sup>st</sup> November, we will be celebrating Children in Need and the start of the world cup. Children will be fundraising in PE lessons by trying to score as many goals as possible. There will also be a mufti day on Friday 25<sup>th</sup> where children can either wear a football kit, a sports kit or their own clothes. Please do not feel pressured to donate or sponsor your child for this as I know we are all going through a cost of living crisis. However, all children will be able to take part. Natalie will send out further information next week.

**Well done News:** Today we had the pleasure of listening to one of year 6 children play the piano in our Key Stage 2 Star of the Week Assembly. Well done to Jamie Ta for putting on a mini concert. You were fantastic!

**Parent Support:** Two of our parents have set up a support network for parents to share the good and difficult times with. This will go live on Monday and further information will be sent out. Well done and good luck for the launch to Lataanya Curling and Ellen Garcia.

**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.

**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 . Please also note that the opening hours of the school office is **8am-4pm**.

**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.



**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. I have also put a short questionnaire on Weduc in the forms section. Please take the time to complete by Friday December 2<sup>nd</sup>.



Have a lovely weekend. Many Thanks  
Katie Goodwin  
Head Teacher



We've designed a simple checklist to give you peace of mind regarding your child's safety on the internet.

Set your children's device up before you give it to them so you know they're safe online as soon as they start playing.



## Get started



Set parental controls on your broadband to prevent your children seeing things they shouldn't



For smart phones check parental controls are also set up on the mobile network

## Set up the device safely



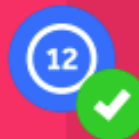
Use the device setting so you can only download age appropriate apps and games



Disable location services so your child doesn't unintentionally share their location with others



Set up password control or disable in-app purchasing so big bills are not run up accidentally



Download age appropriate apps you're happy for your child to use

## Talk about staying safe



If your children are 8-10 years old, download our parent / child Internet Matters app to help you talk about e-safety issues in an interactive way.



Be aware of key issues and how to discuss them with your children so they know how to stay safe online



If your child is using social networking apps check their profile and privacy settings, making sure they are not sharing personal or private information with people they do not know