

# St Nicholas School Weekly Newsletter

Friday 20<sup>th</sup>  
January 2023

*Learning Together*



Dear Parents,

It has been a very chilly week this week and we are hoping the Spring and the warmer weather arrives soon. The children have continued to work hard in their classes. It has been lovely seeing the staff and children dress in purple today to remember Karl. All of us have such fond memories of him.

**Teachers Strike:** As you may be aware, the largest Teacher Union (the NEU) are due to lead their members in strike action on the following days: **Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> February, Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> March, Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> March and Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> March.** As of yet, I am not aware how many of the teaching staff this will involve so I am unsure how this will affect staffing on those days. I am hoping to have a decision made by next Friday 27<sup>th</sup> January – although some last minute decisions may need to be made. I will also send a further letter today explaining the strike action and decisions to be made.

**Illness:** We continue to have a lot of illness in school. Please do not send in your child if they have a respiratory infection, fever or stomach upsets including vomiting. New guidance was published at the beginning of January: Professor Susan Hopkins (Chief Medical Adviser at the UK Health Security Agency – UKHSA) has said **'It is important to minimise the spread of infection in schools and other education and childcare settings as much as possible. If your child is unwell and has a fever, they should stay home from school until the fever has resolved.'** In school, we have been continue to help the children learn about the importance of good hand hygiene and remembering to wash their hands with soap and warm water. We have also been reminding the children to catch coughs and sneezes in tissues then binning them.

**Reporting Absence:** Please remember that you can either report your child's absence via Weduc or you can leave a message on the telephone system. Please leave a reason for the absence so that we can mark it on the registers.

**GDPR form on Weduc:** Please can you complete the GDPR form on Weduc. This is where you give permission for your child's photo to be used in school, on our school website and on social media. Please can you complete this as soon as possible.

**Website:** Earlier this week, Abbie McQueeney (Teacher and ICT lead) put a message up on the Parents of St Nicholas Facebook group asking for suggestions of what you felt you would like to see on the parent support page on our school website. Please can you reply to this message or send Abbie a Weduc with your suggestions. We are re-vamping parts of our website and this would be really useful.

**Coffee Morning:** We had a great turnout at our 'Chill and Chat' Coffee Morning yesterday and both Juliet and Beth enjoyed talking to many of our parents. Our next coffee morning is on Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> January. It will be led by Melodie Blake and will focus on Writing and some of the resources/strategies we use.

**Clothing Bin:** As part of a recycling drive, the school now has a large clothing bin where parents and staff can dispose of any unwanted clothing items. More information will follow shortly.

**Reminder Training for families (Young Gamers and Gamblers Education Trust):** There is an online training event run by the YGAM charity who offer workshops to Parents and Carers regarding Gaming and Gambling. Their knowledge is current and helps those of us with less technical knowledge know how to be more aware. If you are interested in signing up for this, please can you click on the link below:

**Workshop:** Gaming and Gambling Awareness and Information Session: For Parents and Carers

**Date:** Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> January 2023

**Time:** 10:00am – 11:15am

**Venue:** Online, via Microsoft Teams

**To register:** [25/01/2023 YGAM Parent Awareness Workshop Booking Link](#)



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**Number Day 2023:** We will celebrate Number's Day again this year following its success last year. This will be a fun day of maths activities. The children will be taking part in **Dress up for Digits**. Pupils are asked to wear an item of clothing with a number in it e.g. a football shirt, a cap or even a onesie! Or you could be even more creative and dress up in a maths or numbers theme. Last year, we had lots of inventive ideas. We will raise money for the NSPCC on this day. If you feel you are able to donate some money, please do so via Weduc payments.

**EHCPs:** Over the next week, Natalie will be sending out dates for your child's EHCP review. These will now be on the same day each week and meetings will be back to back. We ask that you ensure that you turn up for your meeting and that you are prompt as another meeting will be starting straight after another meeting has finished.

**Year 5 and 6 Circus:** Last Wednesday, some of our Year 6 children were lucky enough to visit a circus at Croydon's Fairfield Halls. One of our local businesses, Sherwood Jewellery, generously donated the tickets to the school for our older children. All of the children had a great time and they enjoyed telling us all about it the next day. I even hear that one of our parents was pulled up on stage!

## Important Dates for the Spring Term:

**Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> January** – Parent Coffee Morning/Workshop – How we teach Literacy and Writing (please note change of date)

**Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> January** – Parent Coffee Morning/Workshop – How we teach Numeracy

**Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> February:** Possible Teachers Strike Day

**Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> February:** Number Day 2023 in aid of the NSPCC. Children to dress in mufti (number related if possible)

**Friday 10<sup>th</sup> February** – Parent Coffee Morning Chill and Chat

**Friday 10<sup>th</sup> February** – Last day of the half term (finish at 3pm)

**Monday 13<sup>th</sup> February – Friday 17<sup>th</sup> February** – Half Term Holiday

**Monday 20<sup>th</sup> February** – INSET (no children in school)

**Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> February** – Children return to school

**Friday 24<sup>th</sup> February** – Parent Coffee Morning SaLT led by Beth Gentry Hobson

**Monday 27<sup>th</sup> March – Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> March** – Book Week

**Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> March:** Possible Teachers Strike Day

**Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> March** – Mufti Day for Book Week

**Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> March** – Parent Coffee Morning – Chill and Chat

**Monday 13<sup>th</sup> March – Friday 17<sup>th</sup> March** – Science Week

**Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> March** – Parent Coffee Morning – How we teach Literacy/Reading

**Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> March:** Possible Teachers Strike Day

**Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> March:** Possible Teachers Strike Day

**Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> March** – Parent Evening

**Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> March** – Parent Coffee Morning OT and NAS

**Monday 27<sup>th</sup>-Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> March** – Squelch Theatre for Key Stage 1

**Friday 31<sup>st</sup> March** – Last Day of Spring Term (break up at 1:30)

**Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> April – Friday 14<sup>th</sup> April** – Easter Holidays

**Monday 17<sup>th</sup> April** – Children return for summer term

**Monday 1<sup>st</sup> May and Monday 8<sup>th</sup> May** – Bank Holiday (school closed)

Have a lovely weekend.

Many Thanks

Katie Goodwin

Head Teacher

