

St Nicholas School Weekly Newsletter

Learning Together

Friday 17th
November 2023



Dear Parents,

I hope that you are all keeping well? We have continued to have a busy week here at St Nicholas. The children are enjoying their learning and enjoy sharing what they have learnt.

Children in Need: It was great seeing the children in their mufti today. Even some of the staff are wearing their Pudsey t-shirts and head bands. In classes, children have enjoyed some Children in Need activities including creating their own Pudsey Bears. Thank you for your donations so far for Children in Need. So far our total is: **£119**. If you wish to donate, the payment will still be open on Weduc over the weekend.

Leading Parent Partnership Award (LPPA): As part of our school improvement we are working on parent engagement and for this we are working towards the Leading Parent Partnership Award. We would like to have a parent join us as part of a working party for this accreditation. Please let Sarah Holliday know if you are interested in joining in this group. Information about the accreditation is attached at the end of the newsletter.

Important Dates

Thursday 23rd November: Introduction to Little Wandle Phonics Scheme Coffee Morning

Friday 24th November: School Closed for pupils. Staff INSET

Tuesday 28th November: Winter craft KS1

Wednesday 29th November: Winter Craft KS2

Wednesday 29th November: M&M Productions 'Snow White'

Monday 4th December: PECS coffee morning

Wednesday 13th December: KS1 show am and KS2 show pm

Thursday 14th December: KS2 show am and KS1 show pm

Wednesday 20th December: Christmas Jumper Day and Christmas Lunch

Thursday 21st December: Last day of term. Break up at 1:30

Little Wandle Phonics Coffee Morning: On Thursday 23rd November, our English Leads will lead a coffee morning on our new phonics scheme – Little Wandle Phonics. This scheme has been specifically developed for SEND and mirrors the main Little Wandle Letters and Sounds Revised Phonics Programme. It has adaptations and support in pace that make it possible in schools, special schools and providers to meet the needs of all their learners. It has been created to help children learn to read using the right level of challenge for each child, using the graduated approach if needed. It also considers the needs of sight-readers and support children with fluency and comprehension. At next week's coffee morning, parents will be able to see some of the exciting new resources that we have in school and use with the children. There will also be demonstrations on how to say the sounds when reading with your child and some of the activities that are attached to books. If you are able to come along to this session, please sign up on Weduc.

Christmas Shows: This week, staff chose their song that their class will perform at the Christmas Shows in December. The Christmas Show is a variety show where classes sing, dance or play music and perform in front of their parents. There will also be a song by the school choir and possibly a staff performance too. It is a chance for you to come and see your child perform. The show days are Wednesday 13th and Thursday 14th December. There will be coffee, tea and mince pies after the morning shows.

Wednesday 13th December KS1 10:00-11:30

Wednesday 13th December KS2 1:15-2:30

Thursday 14th December KS2 10:00-11:30

Thursday 14th December KS2 1:15-2:30

INSET: Please remember that St Nicholas School is closed on Friday 24th November for staff INSET.

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Winter Crafts: Our annual Winter Crafts is coming up on Tuesday 28th November for Key Stage 1 and Wednesday 29th November for Key Stage 2 from 3;30-5:00. **An adult must accompany a child for this event. You cannot sign up your child on their own.** Siblings are able to join in with the activities. Please book your spaces for the event via Weduc. The cost is £3 per person or £10 for a family of 4. Please note only a maximum of 4 participants per pupil. It promises to be an amazing time as always and there are lots of fun activities to enjoy. There will be 16 activities in total including face Painting, Glitter Tattoos, Fridge magnets, Jump-Up Elf, Scratch Art Snowmen and Biscuit and cake decoration. We are looking forward to many of you joining us.

Absence reporting: If your child is absent due to illness or for a medical appointment, please can you do this via Weduc or pressing 2 on the phone system and leave a message. Please give a specific reason for the absence so that we can mark it on the registers. We urge that rather than saying your child is 'unwell', you let us know the illness they have e.g. vomiting/diarrhoea/headache etc so that we can keep a track of illnesses in the school and if there are any contagious infections. In some cases, we need to alert the Public Health Agency. **Please note that if you do not inform us of absence, it goes down as an 'N' code in the registers which is an unauthorised absence.** Further, if your child is sick or un-well when they are in school, we will call parents to ask you to come and collect them **immediately.** Please make sure that we have the correct phone numbers for both contacts.

Colder Weather: Now that the colder weather has arrived, please make sure your child is dressed appropriately for the weather. We will always try to take the children outside during the day for some fresh air as this is essential for their sensory regulation during the day.

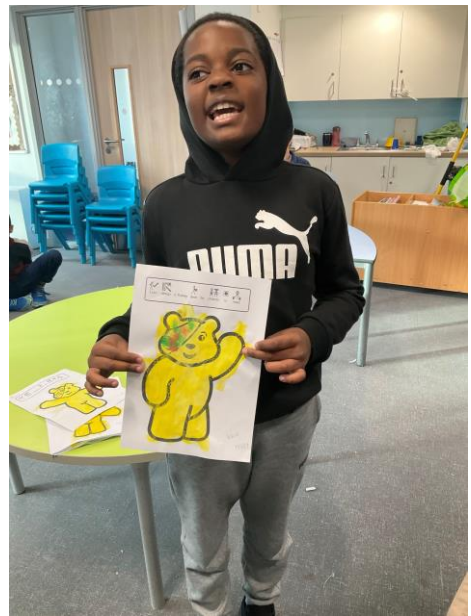
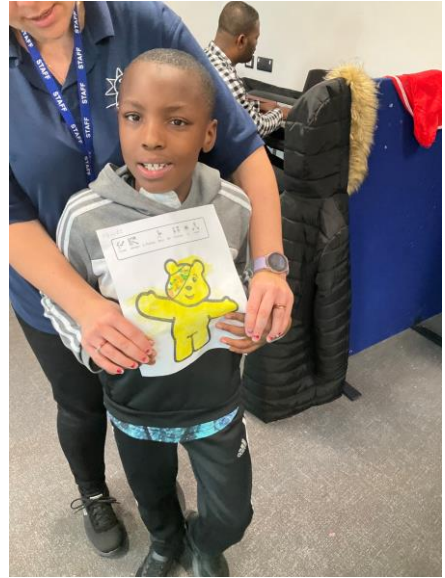
Parent Policies: Before half term, Parent Policies, the Parent Code of Conduct and the Home/School Agreement were sent home via Weduc. Please follow the link so that you can sign the form on Weduc.

Nut Free School: As a reminder, we are a **NUT FREE SCHOOL.** No nut products must be brought into school in lunch boxes or as snacks. This includes peanut flavoured crisps, yogurts or chocolate. We have children and staff with nut allergies in school. If staff members see nut products in lunch boxes, we will be removing them to ensure the safety of others.

I hope you all have a lovely weekend.

Many Thanks
Katie Goodwin
Head Teacher

Photos



Some of our work from Children in Need and from Diwali.

LPPA

improving
parental
engagement

Leading Parent Partnership Award (LPPA)

Develop positive relationships with parents

This whole-school Award helps your school to work in partnership with all parents and carers. Parental participation in school life has a large and positive impact on pupils' learning and can also improve punctuality, attendance, and behaviour.

Undertaking the LPPA will ensure that outstanding parental engagement sits at the heart of your school life now and in the future, as well as allowing you to demonstrate your outstanding provision to key stakeholders.

What's in the Leading Parent Partnership Award framework?

Transition

Support parents as their children transition through or between schools.

Participation

Include all groups of parents in supporting their children's learning and developing their own learning.

Communication

Take steps to ensure that the school is a welcoming communicative and friendly place for parents.

Guidance

Provide clear and accessible guidance to help parents support their children's learning and development.

Induction

Provide clear guidance on the responsibilities of parents, schools and pupils, and share this information with parents as a key part of the induction process.

Home-school links

Produce parent-friendly policies to establish effective home-school links.

The LPPA has been promoting excellence in parent partnership in schools and other educational settings since 2003. As of 2020, more than 2,000 schools have been accredited or are currently working through the process.

What our schools think...

'This award works for all schools regardless of progress to date. For a school just starting on the development of parental engagement, it is a comprehensive framework that can be substantially supported by external experts. For schools with much already in place, it helps identify gaps quickly, helps shape development work incrementally and allows endorsement of existing good practice. For those schools who have extensive established good practice, it is a health check and great Ofsted evidence.' The Nobel School, Hertfordshire

How do schools achieve the Leading Parent Partnership Award?

First steps audit your current provision

Audit your current provision

- Send out specialised questionnaires to stakeholders and collect feedback online
- Complete a school self-evaluation to evaluate current provision against the award framework

Next step plan your action

Use the feedback and the self-evaluation to create your action plan with our online dynamic action planning tool

This could involve a one-day visit from one of our expert Award Advisers

Next step collect evidence

Evidence may include photos, videos or documents

- You can use the secure e-portfolio in your account to store evidence
- Re-send the stakeholder questionnaires to evaluate the impact of the changes you have made

Another chance to get a visit from one of our expert Award Advisers

Next step ready for verification?

One of our Award Verifiers will visit your school to evaluate evidence, speak to pupils, parents and staff, and ensure that the work you have done meets the Award standards

Next step accreditation

If you've met the standards, you'll achieve the Award!

- You'll receive a digital badge to display on your website, a framed certificate, and a detailed report from the Verifier
- Tell the world about your achievement by posting about it on social media!

Next step keep going

Maintain your exceptional provision during your three-year accreditation

- After three years, renew your accreditation by applying for Reassessment
- An Award Verifier will visit your school to check that you are continuing to meet the standards of the Award.



Contact us for more information
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