

St Nicholas School Weekly Newsletter

Learning Together

Friday 1st
December 2023



Dear Parents,

Once again we have had a busy week at St Nicholas. The children had their first run through of the Christmas Show yesterday and they have all been working hard learning their words and moves to their songs.

Christmas Shows: 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 on stage. The show days are Wednesday 13th and Thursday 14th December. There will be coffee, tea and mince pies after the morning shows hosted by some of our parents. We hope to see many of you.

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 KS1 1:15-2:30

Important Dates

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

Monday 8th January: Children return to school

Friends of St Nicholas School: A few of our parents are keen to start up a 'Friends of St Nicholas School' Group. This will be a fundraising group that will raise essential funds for the school to be spent on resources, school trips and extra equipment around the school. Lataanya Curling and Laura Taylor (two of our parents) will be at the Christmas Shows and will collect details of parents who are interested in finding out more about 'Friends of St Nicholas School'.

PECS Coffee Morning: On Monday 4th December, our SaLT Team will be hosting a coffee morning and discussing PECS (Picture Exchange Communication System) for our parents. Here you will be to find out more about PECS and how you can use it at home with your child. There are a number of parents who have signed up to the coffee morning. If you wish to attend, please do so via Weduc forms.

Winter Crafts: This week, we hosted our annual Winter Craft event at school for our children and their families and both days were attended well. It was lovely to see the children and their parents enjoy making some craft together. Please see some of the pictures below. Thank you to Peju for organising and for the staff who stayed behind to help run craft activities.



St Nicholas School Weekly Newsletter

Learning Together



School Photos: This week the children enjoyed watching a performance of Snow White by M&M Productions. The children laughed and sang their way through the performance and even got to see a 'dance off' between 2 members of staff. It was lovely hearing the children talk about the show when they were back in class.



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.

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.

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.

Behaviour Support Service: The Behaviour Support Service have contacted the school to see if any of our families would be interested in accessing their services to support with behaviour such as challenging behaviour related to ASD, sleep and eating. Please click on the link or scan the QR code and complete the questionnaire if you are interested in receiving support.

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=sITDN7CF9Ueylge0jXdO4zgwF5xv4M9CsjiJxDv1dWNUMzRZSU1YV1pXNEHTIpUMjFUWjNDWEE2Vi4u>



St Nicholas School Weekly Newsletter

Learning Together



'Take Charge' Parenting Programme: The Write Time will be running another round of their brilliant "Take Charge" programme, dedicated to promoting family harmony for parents with young people who have special educational needs and disabilities (SEND). This 6-week programme offers a comprehensive range of 1-to-1 and group support, including mentoring activities and counselling. They facilitate weekly coffee mornings, providing a safe and welcoming space for parents to gain knowledge and understanding of their children's needs and differences. They can also support with EHCP's, DLA and benefits to those who attend their programme. They believe this programme has the potential to transform the lives of families in our community by empowering parents with essential relationship management skills, fostering positive family dynamics and open communication. Here is some feedback quotes from parents who have previously and are currently attending "Take Charge" sessions:

- "Eye-opening conversations"
- "A positive outlook for my future"
- "I've learned the support I have in my life"

To book a place or for more information please email holliechisnall@thewritetime.org.uk or sukbahra@thewritetime.org.uk

Please also see attached leaflet the end of this newsletter.

School Transport and Parking outside of school: The school has seen an increase in school transport bus cancellations recently due to 'severe staff sickness'. Today alone, we had 3 cancelled buses. This is having a huge impact on the school and on our families. Myself and the head-teachers from the other Croydon Special Schools are compiling data to put in a letter to Croydon Transport and the LA as we do not believe that this is acceptable service for our pupils and their families. If your child's bus is cancelled and you opt to bring them into school, please can you look out for any messages/updates that we send out via Weduc as we may need to alter collection times at the end of the day (as we needed to today).

Please can you also be mindful of where you park outside the school gates. If too many cars park on both sides of the road or on the bend into Aveling Close, it narrows the road and makes it very difficult for traffic to move freely up and down the road. I also just want to say thank you to all of the parents who collect at the end of the day. Your prompt departure has meant that we getting less complaints from neighbours and also that our end of day routine is safe for all of our pupils.

I hope you all have a lovely weekend.

Many Thanks
Katie Goodwin
Head Teacher