



St Nicholas Catholic Primary School

Newsletter

Executive Head: Mrs Angela Folland

Head of School: Miss Kelli Reynolds

Living and Learning in Spirit and in Truth

4th September 2020

Head of School's News

We are really excited to see all of our children return back into school on Monday. While the school will run slightly differently to reduce the possible spread of COVID 19, we are looking forward to getting all children back to their learning, school routines and friends!

Rainbow Wall of Lockdown Achievements!

We have heard of some amazing things that our children have been up to during lockdown! It might be building a den in the garden, helping an elderly neighbour, fundraising, learning a new skill or a piece of home learning that you were particularly proud of! We are creating a Rainbow Wall in the atrium to celebrate all of your achievements. Please bring in a photograph, your drawing, your writing etc so that we can celebrate you! (All items in by Wednesday 16th September) and hand these to your child's class teacher.

Information to note

For full details of how the school is working to open fully next week to all children, please refer back to the Information newsletter that was sent on 20th July. A copy can also be found on our website. This newsletter is to bring you up to date with the most important information you will need for next week.

Face Coverings

There has been a lot in the news recently about face coverings. It is generally accepted that face coverings are not necessary for children under the age of 12 and that the transmission of infection is higher due to young children removing facemasks. Primary schools are **not** recommending the use of face coverings - in accordance with Government guidelines. This means that we are not expecting children to wear facemasks to school (unless of course you are using public transport). If you are insistent that your child should wear a facemask during the school day, you will need to make an appointment to see Miss Reynolds to discuss this in person.

Quarantine

If you have recently returned from a holiday in a country which is **not** part of a travel corridor with the UK you may not send your child to school until after the quarantine period. Please advise the school (admin@stnics.uk) of the date of your child's potential return and the country you visited. Information can be found at <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-travel-corridors>

Staffing News

We are pleased to welcome new staff to the school. Miss Amy Howes will teach Lydford Class; Miss Esther Mackay will teach Totnes Class and Miss Chloe McGinty will teach Plympton Class. We also welcome Mr Jack Desmond and Miss Josie Haddow-Mendes to our teaching assistant team.

Over the holidays we said goodbye to Miss Karla Holland who worked at St Nicholas for over 7 years. We thank her for her dedication and hard work and wish her much happiness for the future.

PE Kits

All children (except Reception and Nursery children) will need to have their PE kit on site at all times as PE will resume under the normal curriculum provision.

Pencil Cases

Please do not send your child to school with a pencil case or other belongings from home. During lockdown the children in school managed really well with the individual resources we gave them. They will all be provided with their own stationary to reduce the risk during the school day.

Drop Off and Pick Up

All measures are designed to reduce the congregation of parents and children. No parents will be allowed into the classrooms.

We will continue to use the one way system for drop off and pick up. If your child hasn't been in school since March, this means you will need to follow the signs up Ringswell Avenue and enter the site via the carpark.

ALL Year 3-6 classrooms will be open from 8.30am and children will go straight into their classroom, wash their hands and do some morning work. Please leave the site immediately.

Year 1 and 2 children will wait on a yellow painted spot (marked and labelled on the playground). The teacher will take your child in one at a time to wash their hands and sit at their assigned desk.

Reception and Nursery - Please hand your child over to their teacher who will take them into the EYFS unit to wash their hands and start an activity.

At the end of the day please follow the one way system and the teachers will dismiss the children from the classroom.

Safeguarding reminders

We would like to remind you of some aspects of our school safeguarding policy which keep our children safe. Please note these points and respect them.

- Mobile phones may not be used in school by parents. You may take a call if you are in the Reception area but if you are in the main building you should not be on your phone and you may be challenged by a member of staff.
- Children who bring mobile phones into school must give them to their teacher at the start of the school day. If they are found in bags they will be confiscated until the end of the day and handed back to the parents.
- **A number of children are now wearing watches that have the ability to take photos. This is a huge safeguarding risk for us. These are not to be worn in school and will also be confiscated and kept in the school safe until the end of the day.**
- At any school events you may of course take photos of your child. However if the photos include other children these photos may not be posted publicly on your social media accounts.
- Please remember we are a nut free school as we have a number of children with severe allergies.

School Uniform

Children may wear summer uniform until half term. A reminder that the polo shirt colour has changed from white to bottle green and can be obtained from Thomas Moore or myclothing.com. The white polo shirt (with logo) is also acceptable until the end of October half term. After half term we expect all children to be in white shirts and school ties (please see the website for more information).

We are aware that Thomas Moore have run out of school ties. Please be reassured that we are aware of this and there will be no consequences for your child.

Parking

A reminder to parents that our car park is only for the use of staff and parents who have applied for and been granted a car park permit. All other parents are politely requested to park in the neighbouring area if the use of a car is necessary. We ask that you park with care and respect for our neighbours and do not block drives or exits.

Flu Vaccinations - message from the School Age Immunisations Team

Children in Reception to Year 6 are eligible for a Free Nasal Childhood Flu Vaccination. It is anticipated that this will be delivered in our school on 2nd December 2020, this will be administered adhering to all up to date Infection Control, PPE and social distancing guidance at the time. Flu vaccination is one of the most effective interventions we have to reduce pressure on the health and social care system which is going to be more important than ever this year. For this reason, it is essential we deliver the vaccine to as many children as possible to prevent the spread of infection to those most at risk in society. We urge you to follow the below link to consent to your child's vaccination now. Even if you do not want your child to receive this vaccination, please complete the consent form stating "no" consent. You will also find answers to your FAQ's on this link. <https://schoolimms.virginicare.co.uk/flu/2020/devon>

If you have any difficulties with completing the consent form please contact the Immunisation Team on our Single Point of Access (SPA). Tel: 0300 247 0082 Email: vcl.immunisations@nhs.net

Prayer

We thank you for our
school, Lord
We thank you that we are
back together.
We thank you for our
school, Lord
We thank you for the new
pupils and staff that have
joined us.
Thank you for our school,
Lord
We thank you for everyone
here.
We thank you for this new
start, Lord,
We thank you for our future.
Amen



Community News

Colyton 11+ Arrangements

Please be advised that the admission arrangements for Colyton Grammar School have been varied: the entrance tests will now be held on the weekend of **17 and 18 October 2020**.

Parents must still register their children to take the test – this can be done at <https://admissions.colytongrammar.com/introduction.php>. The deadline is 9th September 2020.

As the outcome of tests will be later than usual, all applicants for Devon-resident children at secondary transfer will be able to nominate up to 4 schools this year. Devon advises that all parents consider naming a non-selective school as one of the preferences in the event that a place is not available at any selective school.

If you have any queries about admissions arrangements, please contact the school or Devon Admissions Team on 0345 155 1019 or admissions@devon.gov.uk

**St Nicholas Catholic Primary School, Ringswell Avenue, Exeter, Devon, EX1 3EG 01392 445403
admin@stncs.uk**

Website: www.st-nicholas-exeter.devon.sch.uk

St Nicholas School is committed to safeguarding children.

Designated Child Protection Lead: Mrs Denise Sparkes Deputy Child Protection Leads: Mrs A Folland, Miss K Reynolds, Mrs A Griss and Miss J Pym Named Governors for Child Protection: Mrs Fran Dennehy