



St Nicholas Catholic Primary School

Newsletter 21st January 2022

Executive Head: Miss Cathy Lowry Head of School: Miss Kelli Reynolds

St Nicholas Catholic Primary School, Ringswell Avenue, Exeter, Devon, EX1 3EG

01392 445403 admin@stnics.uk

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

St Nicholas School is committed to safeguarding children.

Designated Child Protection Lead: Miss K Reynolds

Deputy Child Protection Leads: Mrs D Sparkes & Miss C Lowry

Named Governors for Child Protection: Mrs F Dennehy and Mr J Cookson

Head of School's News

PTA

After making a significant contribution to school life at St Nicholas, Helen Manning, Kelly Heale and Helen O'Shea have decided to leave the PTA. We would like to thank them for their time, dedication and creativity- their work has enhanced the experiences of our children and families while raising much appreciated funds for our school.

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome Louise Kerslake, Anna Badek and Geri Lavelle who have volunteered to take over the PTA. We look forward to working together!

School uniform

The children should continue with their full winter uniform until after the Easter holidays. Please ensure children wear their ties, school jumpers and appropriate school shoes. Please remember that girls should tie their hair up and wear school shoes rather than boots. Children are still able to come to school in their PE kits on the days that they have PE. However, they should wear school jumpers or school fleeces along with PE shorts or dark coloured tracksuit bottoms. Hoodies and brightly coloured leggings are not part of our school uniform. If you do not have an item of uniform (for example, your child has outgrown their school shoes and you have to wait for a new pair to be delivered) for any period of time, please email your child's class teacher to let them know.

Phones

We are seeing an increase in the number of children bringing their mobile phones to school. Mobile phones should only be brought into school in exceptional circumstances. For example, a child in year 6 is walking home alone. If your child brings a phone into school unnecessarily, you will be asked to take it home. If your child is permitted to bring their phone into school, s/he will be asked to take it to the office for safekeeping over the school day.

COVID 19 school update

While the COVID restrictions are being relaxed nationally due to a reduction in positive cases, we have been advised by the Trust to keep our control measures in place to reduce the risk of infection. Many schools are still seeing a high number of cases amongst children and staff. Therefore, face coverings will still be worn in communal areas by staff and visitors to the school site, enhanced cleaning practices will continue and hand hygiene will remain priority. We will carry on running assemblies and acts of worship virtually. We will work with The Trust to regularly review the risk assessment and you will be informed of any changes as they occur.

Term Dates 22-23

22-23 term dates are now agreed and have been distributed with this newsletter. They are also on the website calendar. Children return in September 2022 on the 5th. Hardcopies of 21/22 and 22/23 dates are available from the office.

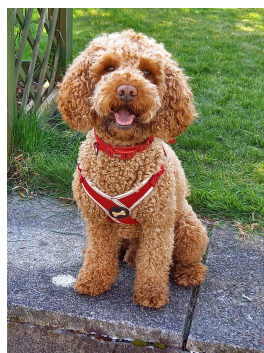
Information

Important Dates:

1st February	DEADLINE FOR FULL PAYMENT FOR YR 4 HEATREE RESIDENTIAL
4th February	Candlemas liturgy led by Berry Pomeroy Class
7th - 9th February	Yr 4 residential to Heatree
11th February	Yr 2 sleepover in school
18th February	Sporty Stars - Glow in the Dark dodgeball. See below. Break up for half term
Tuesday 1st March	Children return to school

Disciples of the week			
Compton	Amalia / Daniel	Okehampton	Eli / Robyn
Berry Pomeroy	Whole Class	Lydford	Alex B / Roman
Plympton	Chloe / Keevan	Dartmouth	Sophia / Evie
Totnes	William / Sebastian	Drogo	Toby / William
Kingswear	Oscar / Matilda	Nursery	Declan / Lily
Rougemont	Korin / Mia	<i>Well done to you all!</i>	

Alfie



Alfie, our school dog, was the star of the show last week. He and Mrs Brocksom (his owner) joined the St Nicholas year 1/2 children in the hall with those from our sister school - Our Lady and St Patricks (who joined us on a video link) and talked all about Alfie. The children were able to ask many questions such as whether he has siblings; what were his toys made of; why he is curly; whether he is good and what his bed is like. Mrs Brocksom showed them his toys, food bowl, blanket and lead and they discussed what they are made of and what they feel like. The children will now design a toy for Alfie as part of a class science project. He behaved brilliantly and the children really enjoyed seeing him close up and talking about him.

Glow in the dark dodgeball at St Nicholas Catholic Primary School on Friday 18th February.

Sporty Stars will be hosting a glow in the dark dodgeball evening on Friday 18th February, for pupils of St Nicholas Catholic Primary School. Glow Dodgeball combines UV lights, face paint, fluorescent bibs, music and specialised sports equipment, to create a spectacular and memorable experience. We recommend children arrive wearing sporty clothing, they will be provided with all the equipment they require including fluorescent bibs and face paint. (please note After School Club will be running as normal).

Timings:

Keystage 1: 5:15pm - 6:15pm

Keystage 2: 6:30pm - 7:30pm

Location: School hall

Bookings: The cost of these sessions are £7 per person. Book online via the website here:

<https://www.sportystars.co.uk/glow-sports-events.html>

Living and Learning in Spirit and in Truth

Community News

Drum Tuition

IMS Music are pleased to be providing weekly drum tuition at St Nicholas School and are currently offering free 10 minute tasters to any interested pupils this term. Please contact Sinead at IMS Music for more details: admin.ims1@talktalk.net , 07407 768610

Sporty Stars Holiday Club

Sporty Stars will be running two multi activity holiday camps in Exeter during the February half term for children aged 4 - 12. Their award winning camps are available for all children in Exeter and the surrounding area. Boasting a range of unique and exciting activities; Glow in the dark sports, Zorbing, Nerf wars, Archery, Shelter building, Spy school, Dodgeball and more.

Locations: Clyst Heath Primary, Royal Cres, Exeter, EX2 7QT and Topsham Primary School, Orchard Way, Exeter, EX3 0DN.

Timings: 8:15am - 5:15pm Cost: £35 per day / £157.50 per week

More Info / Bookings: <https://www.sportystars.co.uk/holiday-camps.html>

Devon Parents Survey

Take part in the **Spring 2022**

Parents Childcare Survey

17th January - 14th February 2022

Are you a parent or carer? Whether you currently use childcare or not, your voice counts.

Take part in our short survey to help us make sure there is enough high-quality, affordable childcare to enable parents and carers to work or train.

Scan the QR code to complete the survey and share your thoughts on the childcare services available in Devon. You can also visit our website to take part.

devon.cc/parents-childcare-survey 🔍

Devon
County Council

Devon County Council Initiative - Speakout

Most families need some support from time to time. SpeakOut wants to hear from young people and parents from Black, Asian and minority ethnic families on how easy it is to find the help you need, if the help is right for you, and how things could be made better. We believe that every family should be able to get the support they need, when they need it, no matter their background.

SpeakOut is a survey for parents and young people. We want to hear your ideas about what would make the support available to you better. You can share your story anonymously through our survey as video, audio or text responses, in any language.

You can find out more on the [SpeakOut website https://speakout.family/](https://speakout.family/) or by contacting speakout@eif.org.uk

Winter Prayer

Lord

In the midst of Winter, when the days are cold and wind can pierce

Remind us of the warmth of your love.

In the midst of Winter, when days are short, dawn comes late, and dusk arrives early

Remind us that in the darkness your light still shines.

Amen

