

# St Nicholas Catholic Primary School Newsletter

9<sup>th</sup> September 2016



*Living and Learning in  
Spirit and in Truth*

## Staffing news

A warm welcome to our new teachers:

Mrs Thatcher – Okehampton;  
Miss Cox – Kingswear;  
Miss Bottrell – Compton.

We are also delighted that Mr Tebbutt will be teaching music to Year 1 and 2 this year as well as working here on a Monday in Year 5/6.

Congratulations to Mrs Stone who is expecting her first baby in December. She will continue to lead on the quality of Teaching, Learning and the Curriculum until she goes on maternity leave late in November.

Congratulations also to the new Mrs Jordan (Miss Knox) who got married last month.



## Diary Dates

*New School calendars will be issued to all parents with dates for the whole school year included. Please contact the office if you need another copy.*

## September

16<sup>th</sup> New School Year Mass  
9.15am (all welcome)

21<sup>st</sup> Parents Workshop –  
Foundation Stage Phonics 6pm

22<sup>nd</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup> Yr 5 London Trip

26<sup>th</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup> Yr 3/4 Residential

28<sup>th</sup> Parent's Workshop –  
Phonics / Spelling KS1

Headteacher: Mrs A Folland

## Headteacher's News

Welcome back to a new school year. We extend a particular welcome to all of our new children and families who have joined our school community.

This year promises to be full of exciting opportunities to develop new initiatives and improve on those already underway. Watch out for developments in spelling, maths calculations and growth mindsets – for children and adults!

We offer a wide range of parent's workshops over the year to help you to support your child's learning – please do try and come to some of them. This year we will offer a crèche at each one.

This Sunday is Education Sunday – children are welcome to join us at Masses 9.30am Sacred Heart and 10.30am Blessed Sacrament in uniform.

## Information

### Parking

You are the first educators of your child and most have chosen this school because of the Christian ethos we share with the children. **Please demonstrate this in your own behaviour when parking:**

- Make sure you are **not** blocking resident's driveways; this is inconsiderate and unnecessary. If residents complain about this we will ask them to take a photo of the registration number and we will forward it to the police.
- Only drive up Ringswell Avenue as a last resort –you can prevent the daily chaos by parking on nearby roads and walking to the school.
- Graham is employed to keep children safe from injury – please treat him with respect.
- We have over 60 staff working at the school – the carpark is **only** for staff and those parents who have been given a pass due to a specific need.

### Chickens

Our 4 chickens have grown over the summer and are now laying eggs. Each class will be caring for them over the year and we will be offering eggs for a small donation on your class's week. Watch out over the next few weeks for the new chicken run that will give them more space to run around! A huge thank you to the Bosley and Osborne families who helped to look after them over the summer holidays and weekends.

### School Bus from St Peters

There may be some disruption on the school bus from St Peters in the mornings over the next few months due to the roadworks on Barrack Road. The bus has changed its route and therefore is not getting to St Peters until around 8.30am. Neela, the Bus Supervisor, will still meet and supervise the children from 8am at St Peters.

### Changes to Menu

We have a pirate themed lunch scheduled for the 19<sup>th</sup> September which includes meatballs. A menu will be sent out to you all in due course. Please note that because of this we will swap the menu choices for the 19<sup>th</sup> and the 12<sup>th</sup> September so that sausages will now be served on the 12<sup>th</sup>.

### Parentmail and Parentpay

All new parents should have received an activation e-mail for Parentmail (for receiving most communications from the school including newsletters, trips and information) and will receive an activation letter for Parentpay (which we use for all payments to the school for trips and activities). Please contact the Office if you have any queries or have not received these.

## British Values

Did you know that there is now a legal requirement to teach British Values and Prevention of extremism within schools?

Watch this space for a regular update of what this means, how we approach it with 3 – 11 year olds and support you can give at home!

## Reminders



Don't forget.....

- to regularly check the website news page and calendar
- to send in a lunch ticket if your child has had a meal without one. You will also receive a reminder text.
- to bring in evidence of any medical appointments your child has in school time for our records
- to bring in evidence of booked Able and Talented courses for our records.

## Prayer to Begin a School Year

God of wisdom and might, we praise you for the wonder of our being, for mind, body and spirit.

Be with our children as they begin a new school year.

Bless them and their teachers and staff.

Give the strength and grace as their bodies grow; wisdom and knowledge to their minds as they search for understanding; and peace and zeal to their hearts.

We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

## Parish and Community News

### Events in Heavitree Park – Parkrun and Fun day.

- **Sunday 11th September 9am PARKRUN** 1st birthday. Parkrun is a timed fun run for children aged 4-14years. Come along and celebrate our first birthday in Heavitree park! Coffee van bacon sarnies and treats for the kids... Fun warm up starts at 8.50am. For more info please email [heavitree-juniorsoffice@parkrun.com](mailto:heavitree-juniorsoffice@parkrun.com) you can also find us on Facebook!
- **Sunday 18th September 12-5pm HEAVITREE FUN DAY** in Heavitree Pleasure Ground organised by Parklife and sponsored by the local counsellors the FUN DAY is a free afternoon of music, rides, craft, food, ale tent, story telling, community disarms, children's activities, stalls, coffee, cake and lots more! For more information see our website-[www.parklifeheavitree.org.uk](http://www.parklifeheavitree.org.uk)

### Parent Workshops offered by Bis-Net (Behaviour Intervention Support Network)

Our 'Supporting a young person/teenager with Challenging or aggressive behaviours' workshop is designed to give various approaches that can be helpful to parents of young people with behavioural support needs, or who are at risk of displaying socially isolating or aggressive behaviours, not dependant on disability or diagnosis. Our 'Supporting the social and emotional development of a young person/teenager with Autism' workshop is more focused on those with an Autism diagnosis but not exclusive and those waiting for an assessment, or even with a child who simply has difficulties in these areas can still attend. The training will take place at **The Clare Milne Centre, Emperor Way, Exeter Business Park. EX1 3QS**. Detailed directions will be sent out with each ticket purchase. The ticket price includes both days training, teas & coffees, soft drinks and a selection of fruit and biscuits. Lunch is not included. All courses are **2 days** with parents needing to attend both, and will run from **9:30am until 2:30pm**.

Supporting a child with Challenging or Aggressive behaviours: This workshop will give an understanding of challenging behaviour and aggression, what might be behind them and what they might mean. It will provide a range of pro-active tools for parents to use to reduce these behaviours taking place as well as approaches to de-escalate and support during times of crisis and melt-down. [Focuses on children under 12] 2 Day Ticket - £15 Thursday 22nd & Friday 23rd September

Supporting a Teenager with Challenging or Aggressive Behaviours: [As above but focused on over 12's] Monday 5th & Tuesday 6th December

Supporting the Social & Emotional Development of a child with Autism: This course will start by giving an in-depth understanding of Autism and how it can interrupt typical social and emotional development, as well as create static thinking patterns. It will then allow parents to practice adjustments and approaches that can re-visit this social and emotional development through interactions with their child. [Focuses on children under 12] 2 Day Ticket - £15 Thursday 29th & Friday 30th September

Supporting the Social & Emotional Development of a Teenager with Autism: [As above but focused on over 12's] Monday 12th & Tuesday 13th December].

**To find out more about what the BIS-net project is all about head to [www.bis-net.org.uk](http://www.bis-net.org.uk).**

### Stagecoach Term Rider

If you have children under 18 in full time education, our termrider tickets give up to 17 weeks of unlimited bus travel in your chosen travel zone. Termrider is valid for unlimited travel, including evenings, weekends and at half term. Each 'term' lasts up to a generous 17 weeks. Termrider is fantastic value for money - an Exeter ticket only costs £145. Termriders are issued on a StagecoachSmart travel card which is only available online. If you need any help or have any questions, please contact our Smart Customer Service team. You can either email them on ([smart.contact@stagecoachbus.com](mailto:smart.contact@stagecoachbus.com)) or call on 0345 810 1000.

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**St Nicholas School is committed to safeguarding children.**

Designated Child Protection Officer: Mrs Amelia Harding Deputy Child Protection Officers: Mrs L Stone, Mrs A Folland and Mrs S Beach. Named Governor for Child Protection: Mrs Lisa Thomas



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