

# St Nicholas Catholic Primary School Newsletter

6<sup>th</sup> December 2019



*Living and Learning in  
Spirit and in Truth*

## Disciple of the Week

Compton	Isaac
Plympton	Seb
Berry	Luke
Pomeroy	
Totnes	Charlotte
Kingswear	George
Rougemont	Grace
Okehampton	Tilly
Lydford	Kelsey
Dartmouth	Seth
Drogo	Sophia
Powderham	Aariv
Nursery	Alexander

Well done to you all!



**PLEASE NOTE THAT THERE  
WILL BE NO CELEBRATION  
ASSEMBLY NEXT WEEK AS  
THE FOUNDATION STAGE  
NATIVITY IS BEING HELD IN  
THE HALL FROM 2PM.**



## Diary Dates

December	
9 <sup>th</sup>	KS1 Nativity 2pm and 6pm
12 <sup>th</sup>	Foundation Stage Nativity 10.30am
13 <sup>th</sup>	Foundation Stage Nativity 2pm
17 <sup>th</sup>	KS2 Christmas Presentation 7pm Sacred Heart
18 <sup>th</sup>	School Christmas Lunch and Singalong

Headteacher: Mrs A Folland

## Headteacher's News

Happy St Nicholas Day!  
We were blessed to celebrate Mass this morning with both Fr Jonathan and Fr Cyriacus which made the day very special.

You will be aware that some of our Play and Curriculum Council members were carrying out a survey during parents evening on proposed changes to the summer uniform. We

want the children to have pride in their uniform and are aware that the new play opportunities mean lots of them came home with lots of brown muddy patches before half term so we propose changing the white polo shirt to a bottle green one from September 2020. Please take part in the survey online coming home before Christmas to give your view. The winter shirt and tie uniform will not change.

## Information

### Staffing News

Mrs Turner will sadly be leaving us at the end of this term after 14 years teaching at St Nicholas. She has been a dedicated member of the teaching team starting in 2005 when St Nicholas first opened its own Nursery. Over the years she has made a huge contribution to the sporting life of the school; co-ordinating the sports coaches, clubs and the running club. We all thank her for her professionalism and commitment to the school community during her time here.

Congratulations to Kelli Reynolds, our Head of School who has completed her SENCO award.

Also to members of the support staff, Karla Clow, Catherine Odams, Joe Sparkes and Mandy Winton, who have all successfully gained NVQ2 Qualifications in Childcare.

### St Nicholas School Christmas Presentation:

Do you know how to celebrate Christmas tradition in a way that is sustainable and environmentally friendly? You are invited to journey with Key Stage 2 as we explore how to celebrate our Christmas traditions whilst taking care of the earth.

**When:** Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> December at 7pm

**Where:** Sacred Heart Church

### Christmas Lunch and Singalong

On the 18<sup>th</sup> December the children will have their Christmas lunch and the afternoon will be the traditional Christmas singalong in the hall. Children may come to school in uniform but wearing Christmas or festive jumpers.

### Term Dates 20-21

Term dates have been agreed and will be sent out via Parentmail. Hard copies will also be available from the Office. Children will return to school on the 7<sup>th</sup> September 2020.

### Reception 2020 Applications

A reminder to parents who are applying for Reception places for September 2020 that applications to Devon County Council must be made by the 15<sup>th</sup> January. Go to <https://www.devon.gov.uk/educationandfamilies/school-information/apply-for-a-school-place/apply-for-a-primary-school-place>. You must also complete a supplementary application form (obtainable on our school website or from Reception, which must be returned to the school by the same date. Please contact Ali in the Office (abrocksom@stncls.uk) if you have any queries or need further information.

### Safeguarding

Sharenting' is when parents share information and images of their children online. Professor Stacey Steinberg, Associate Director of the Centre on Children and Families University of Florida, has written a blog discussing her research on 'sharenting' with best practice guidance for parents of children of all ages including:

- not sharing naked or near naked pictures of children (cute bath pictures)
- giving older children a veto power on online disclosures
- considering the effect sharing has on a child's psychological development
- not sharing your physical location

Go to

<https://blogs.lse.ac.uk/parenting4digitalfuture/2019/11/13/growing-up-shared-negotiating-the-risks-and-opportunities-of-sharenting/>

### Children's Chaplains

Visit the Children's Chaplains webpage [https://st-nicholas-pri.eschools.co.uk/website/childrens\\_chaplain\\_page](https://st-nicholas-pri.eschools.co.uk/website/childrens_chaplain_page) to see a video of them singing a rock and roll grace prayer before their working lunch. You can also find out all about the activities they and Mustard Seeds have taken part in over the last half term including making environmentally friendly Christmas wrapping paper to sell in aid of CAFOD.



### Poppy Appeal

Thank you very much for supporting the poppy appeal.

St Nicholas School raised **£345.31** – a fantastic amount.

The Royal British Legion say *"without your help we would be unable to continue our vital welfare and benevolent work."*

*Thank you".*



### St Nicholas Day

St Nicholas Day is always a special day. We held our St Nicholas Day mass this morning. During this mass the Children's Chaplains were given their Chaplain's hoodies and blessed by the school.



The children made paper shoes to be filled with chocolate coins, kindly provided by the PTA. The kitchen also made a celebratory cake for each class to enjoy.



### Parish and Community News

Please find links below and information attached about after school clubs to be offered by Exeter City Community Trust in the Spring term.

**Football Yr 1-6 (Fridays)** <https://www.exetercitycommunitytrust.co.uk/courses/after-school-clubs/st-nicholas-primary-school>

**Yr 1-2 Multi Sports Club (Tuesdays)**

<https://www.exetercitycommunitytrust.co.uk/courses/after-school-clubs/st-nicholas-primary-school-year-1-and-2-multi-sport-club>

### CAFOD Carol Singing

Our annual singing of Carols in favour of CAFOD will take place on Thursday 12 and Friday 20 December, 6.00 pm to 8.00 pm. Singers and musicians very welcome: please join us at Tesco's, Exeter Vale, Russell Road, Digby EX2 7EZ for an enjoyable evening. (For further details: contact Gerry Hinton 07970 042641)

### NIGHT FEVER

Blessed Sacrament Church on Saturday 14 December. Following Mass at 5.30 pm we will invite our local community who are passing the Church to light a candle in the presence of our Lord in the Eucharist. We especially need people to hold lanterns on South Street and others to pray for our visitors. Everyone is welcome, even if you can only come for a few minutes.

### Prayer

Dear Jesus, you are the hope in our messy world. This Advent, help us slow down, listen to your voice, and focus on what's really important.

We place our hope in you as we prepare our hearts to celebrate your birth at Christmas.

Amen.

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

01392 445403 admin@stnics.uk 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  
Mrs A Griss, Miss C Follows and Miss J Pym Named Governor for Child Protection: Mrs Lucy Wills