

# St Nicholas Catholic Primary School Newsletter

Executive Headteacher: Mrs A Folland, Head of School: Miss K Reynolds

6<sup>th</sup> March 2020



*Living and Learning in  
Spirit and in Truth*

## Disciple of the Week

Compton	Oscar Maja
Plympton	Narcis Tylia
Berry Pomeroy	James Isla
Totnes	
Kingswear	Robbie
Rougemont	Conor
Okehampton	Dominik Eva
Lydford	Mason
Dartmouth	Mia Charlie
Drogo	Seb Lucy
Powderham	Erin Toni
Nursery	Daisy-May

Well done to you all!



## Diary Dates

March	
9 <sup>th</sup>	Norse Taster Session in hall at 3.30pm
10 <sup>th</sup>	Dartmouth to Haven Banks
15 <sup>th</sup>	School led mass at Sacred Heart church 9.30am
17 <sup>th</sup>	Learning Assembly led by Okehampton Class Lydford to Haven Banks

## Headteacher's News

Well done to all the pupils and their families for the effort that you have all put into world book day this year. It was wonderful to see all the children either dressed brightly or as a character from their favourite part of The Bible. They were very keen to talk about the story their character had come from and why

they had chosen it. The children also enjoyed an assembly led by Father Jonathon and Father Cyriacus. They then had Bible stories read to them by torch light. It was a truly special day which reflected the uniqueness of St Nicholas School.

## Information

### Devon Norse Taster Afternoon

We will be hosting a taster session for parents and children at 3.30pm on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> March 2020. It will take place in the school hall where our Kitchen Manager, Sam, will invite you to taste some of the delicious meals on offer to the children. There will be a main and a vegetarian option to sample, as well as two of the puddings that are on this term's menu. Also available will be copies of this terms menus, special diet menus, allergen information, example meals and recipes. Philippa Mansfield (Area Support Manager from Devon Norse) will also be on hand to answer any questions you might have.

### Corona Virus (Covid-19)

Please make sure you read the updates we are sending out via Parentmail from Public Health England as the situation is changing by the day. We would like to assure you that the school is taking every step to inform pupils, staff and visitors about how to act during this situation, following daily guidelines given to us by Public Health England, the Department for Education and local authorities. These steps include reminders to pupils and staff to wash their hands and posters displayed around the school. We receive regular notifications from the authorities and we will keep you informed of any updates or developments. In the event of a decision to close the school you will be advised by Parentmail text, there will be a message on the website and on the school phone.

The BBC Newsround website has some short videos on the virus that you may wish to watch with your child/ren. Go to <https://www.bbc.co.uk/newsround/51342366>

### Phones:

It is not necessary for children to have a mobile phone in school. However, we appreciate that there may be rare occasions where it is necessary for a child to bring their phone into school. If your child needs to bring their mobile phone into school for any reason, the phone MUST be handed into the office where it will be kept in the school safe for the duration of the school day. This is to ensure that all children are effectively safeguarded. Your child will be able to collect their phone from the office at the end of the school day. Any phones not handed into the office will be confiscated by school staff and will need to be collected from the office by parents.

### Reports

In September, Plymouth CAST changed the assessment system that all of its schools use to track progress and attainment. Unfortunately, the old system was used by St Nicholas teachers to draft school reports which would usually be published and shared with you in March. We are now looking at a new format for the school report to ensure that we can effectively share information about your child's learning and progress. However, this means that reports will not be shared with you until June. You will have an opportunity to discuss your child's progress with his/her teacher at the parents' evenings due to take place on the 18<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> March. Once you have received your child's school report in June, the school will hold an open classroom event so that you can drop in to discuss the report should you wish. The date for this will be shared with you next term.

**Job Vacancy**

We have a vacancy for a part time Teaching Assistant to give 1:1 support to a Reception child. The job is temporary as it is directly linked to the child being on roll in school.

£8.73 per hour. 21.25 hours per week (Monday to Friday) / 4.25 hours per day starting at 8.30am and finishing at 12.45pm.

*We are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expect all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. An enhanced DBS Disclosure is required for this post.*

Closing Date: 16th March

Interviews: Monday 23rd March

Please contact Ali

([abrocksom@stnics.uk](mailto:abrocksom@stnics.uk)) for more information.

**Class Lenten Prayer Bags**

Throughout Lent, children will take it in turns to bring home a class Lenten prayer bag. Purple is the Church's colour for Lent: it symbolises that we are both waiting and preparing to celebrate Jesus' death and Resurrection at Easter.

As a family, you are invited to light the purple candle, say the Lenten prayer which is in the bag and write a prayer on the heart shaped prayer tag. The next morning, children can hang their prayer on one of the Lenten prayer trees in the atrium.

We ask that the prayer bags are returned each day so that they are available for the next child in the class to take home.

Thank you for your support.

**Sporting News****Sports Day – Change of Date**

Sports Day will now be held on Thursday 25th June. This is to enable the St Peter's Sports Leaders to support us again as they did last year. Please make sure you mark your school calendars.

**Football Tournament**

Good luck to our Yr 6 football team who will be playing in the next stage of the Utilita Kids Cup Football Tournament (managed by the EFL Trust) in Swindon on Monday, representing Exeter. If they go through to the next stage it will be held at Wembley! Find more information at <https://www.efltrust.com/kidscup/>

**Information Continued****Ringswell Avenue and Parking**

We have had two families (including small children) absolutely soaked by people driving too fast through the puddle that collects on Ringswell Avenue in bad weather. Please could you take care when driving through this puddle and slow down.

Also we have had more complaints from neighbours on Ringswell Avenue who are unable to leave their drives as cars are parked across them at drop off and pick up times. This is unacceptable. **Please** have more care and consideration when parking. Please also consider parking a little further away and walking the short distance to school.

**Haven Banks**

Yr 1/2 are off to Haven Banks over the next few weeks to enjoy caving, climbing and abseiling. We have booked for KS2 to attend, all in June. Yr 3/4 will enjoy bellboating and raft building (Rougemont on 9<sup>th</sup>, Kingswear on 11<sup>th</sup> and Totnes on the 18<sup>th</sup>) and Yr 5/6 will enjoy kayaking and raftbuilding (Plympton on 3<sup>rd</sup>, Berry Pomeroy on 4<sup>th</sup> and Compton on the 8<sup>th</sup>). Information about booking your child a place will be sent out next week.

**OPAL**

A reminder that we would appreciate donations of "loose parts" such as clothes for dressing up, sunglasses, hats and handbags, suitcases and briefcases, items to role play cooking/having a picnic, dolls and dolls clothes, buggies. Thank you.

**PTA**

Children: Don't forget to enter the PTA Mother's Day quiz to win a pamper hamper for your mum! The quiz has been sent out on Parentmail but copies can also be collected from the School Office. Bring your completed form to the box in the Office with £1 to enter. Closing date is 19<sup>th</sup> March and the winner is announced on the 20<sup>th</sup>.

Good luck!

**Prayer**

*Springtime! Your message of hope to a world tiring of winter's starkness, longing for that first crocus to push through snow's icy blanket and spread its leaves, like arms outstretched to its creator.*

*Springtime! Our yearly reminder, if we needed one, that to a world that was dark and cold, a world devoid of love's sweet warmth, you sent your Son to break through sin's icy blanket, and, arms outstretched on a cross, he brought us hope. Thank you!*

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

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**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, Miss C Follows and Miss J Pym Named Governors for Child Protection: Mrs Lucy Wills & Ms Fran Dennehy