

St Nicholas Catholic Primary School Newsletter

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

17th January 2020



*Living and Learning in
Spirit and in Truth*

Disciple of the Week

Compton	Chloe
Plympton	Milosz
Berry Pomeroy	Clarice
Totnes	Oliver
Kingswear	Clara
Rougemont	Elsie
Okehampton	
Lydford	
Dartmouth	Antoni
Drogo	Teegan
Powderham	Riker

Well done to you all!



Diary Dates

January	
21 st	9.00 Learning Assembly led by Compton – parents are welcome Australia Fundraiser – see overleaf
24 th	PTA disco from 5.30pm DYJO performance at Blessed Sacrament Church 7pm (see overleaf)
26 th	School led mass at Blessed Sacrament Church 10.45am
31 st	Candlemas Liturgy led by Foundation Stage – parents are welcome

Headteacher's News

Happy New Year and welcome back to a new school term!

Last year we received a grant due to the high number of pupils with additional needs within our school. We have used some of this grant to install a lovely new sensory room with cushions, lights and a huge therapy ball. This will help us to fulfil the sensory needs of our pupils.

The room will be officially opened next week by some of our pupils assisted by Raymond Friel, CEO of Plymouth CAST, Kevin Butlin- the Trust's new Director of Education and standards and Julia Foster- the head of Devon's 0-25 services. We have further exciting plans for use of this grant and will look forward to updating you as these happen.

Information

Increase in Prices – Nursery Hours and School Meals

Please note that from 1st January 2020 the price for a school meal will go up to £2.30. The minimum payment on Parentpay (5 meals) will therefore be £11.50.

Additional Nursery hours will increase to £4.20 per hour.

Curriculum Enrichment

We are committed to extending children's experiences beyond the classroom to bring the curriculum to life. Visitors to school, local trips within Exeter and inter-school activities all enrich children's learning and are often the most powerful experiences children have. Such activities do come at a cost and as you know, funding from the local authority has significantly declined.

We would like to ask parents (who have not already donated) for a voluntary contribution for the year to help us offer these activities and reduce the (sometimes very small) amounts that we collect from you. A suggested donation per child is £10. We would appreciate you paying by Parentpay but if you are unable to access this please send a cash or cheque made payable to "Plymouth CAST" in a SEALED envelope marked Curriculum Enrichment and your child's name and class. If you are using Parentpay please make sure that you use "2019-20 Curriculum Enrichment".

Ringswell Avenue

We had an incident this week where a number of children and adults were soaked by a car driving too fast through the puddle that unfortunately accumulates on Ringswell Avenue during bad weather. If you are driving down the Avenue please take care, consider pedestrians and drive with caution through this deep puddle.

Outdoor Play

Please ensure your child/ren have suitable waterproof coat and wellies (or old trainers) in school **everyday** from Monday 20th January. Thank you for your continued support

Spare Wellies and outdoor clothes

If you have any spare old wellies and / or outdoor clothes (jogging bottoms / t-shirts / coats etc) that no longer fit your child we would appreciate you donating them to school. We are building up a small store of these items to use if a child has forgotten their clothes or shoes for outdoor lessons.

Uniform Consultation

Please make sure you have read and responded to the form sent out on Parentmail about the proposed change to the Summer uniform. All responses are appreciated. The closing date of this form is 31st January.

Fundraising for Australia,

Tuesday 21st January

We are aware of the devastating effects of the recent bushfires in Australia on the environment and for the people and wild-life who live there. On Tuesday 21st January, we are inviting children to donate any spare British coins they have to help Australia via the St Vincent de Paul Society. There will be an outline of Australia on the floor of the Bickleigh Room and each class will have time on Tuesday morning to come in and help to fill up the outline with money. Please send coins into school in a sealed envelope/container/purse on Tuesday 21st January. This will help minimise disruption during registration and ensure a smooth transition to the Bickleigh Room. Children will then be able to place their coins within the outline. Thank you for your support.

PTA**Vacancy for a Mealtime Assistant**

St Nicholas School has a vacancy for a part time / temporary Mealtime Assistant to cover maternity leave until October 2020.

Salary: £8.67 per hour / £16,722 per annum pro rata.

Contract: Temporary / Part-Time

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: 31st January

To apply please contact Ali Brocksom (abrocksom@stnics.uk)

Shortlisted candidates will be notified by email

GIFT Family Catechesis

If you have children in primary school, then GIFT is for you. A different approach to growing in faith which we hope will lead to a greater understanding of the sacraments and your part in the life of the Church.

It is for all primary school age families regardless of whether your children have or have not received First Holy Communion.

Sessions begin on 25 January 9.30 - 12.00 at St Nicholas School, Ringswell Avenue EX1 3EG

Please contact Mrs Quinn for more information (mquinn@stnics.uk)

Parish and Community News**Devon Youth Jazz Orchestra - Friday 24th January 7pm, Blessed Sacrament Church**

Come along and hear some of Devon's most talented young musicians in a night of Jazz. DYJO are fundraising, in liaison with St Nicholas School, for Children's Hospice, South West. One of our pupils who left in July uses Little Bridge house with her younger brother on a regular basis due to her cancer treatment. We wanted to give something back to the amazing charity who supports her and her family. Tickets: Adult £5, Child £3 - available from St Nicholas School 01392 445403 or Blessed Sacrament Office 01392 274724

Blessed Sacrament Toddler Group

Come along to on Mondays from 9.30 – 11.30. Lots of toys and outdoor space and tea / coffee for the parents. New children (aged up to 5) and parents are welcome. Come and make new friends. £1 per session. Please contact Julia Gill (Julia-gill@hotmail.co.uk) / 07989 841681.

Chinese New Year

The University of Exeter will be hosting its annual Chinese New Year Celebrations on Sunday 2 February from 3.00-6.30pm in the Forum, Streatham Campus EX44SZ. Go to <http://www.exeter.ac.uk/chinesenewyear> for more details.

Prayer

Let us live each day in the most loving ways, the God-conscious way.

Let us serve all who are in need, regardless of race, color or creed.

May your year be filled with peace, prosperity and love. May God's blessings shower upon you and bestow upon all of us a bright, healthy and peaceful new year.

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 Governor for Child Protection: Mrs Lucy Wills