



St Nicholas Catholic Primary School

Newsletter 6th May 2022

Executive Head: Miss Cathy Lowry

Head of School: Miss Kelli Reynolds

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

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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

Having had a restful Easter break, the children have returned ready for a summer term of learning! Within the first two weeks, the reception children have adopted some caterpillars, the year 6 children have started swimming lessons and year 3/4 are preparing for some visitors of the feathery variety to support with their learning. The summer term is always incredibly busy and we look forward to being able to play and learn in the sunshine.

New play equipment

The school has invested in some wonderful new play equipment to ensure that the children can have active and happy playtimes. The adults are introducing a new piece of play equipment each week in Celebration Assembly and training some of our older pupils in supporting play. Last week, we introduced a fantastic large Connect-four. We have seen some super team work, patience and resilience during play time with this new resource and we are looking forward to introducing more equipment as each week goes by.

SATS

Our fabulous year 6 children will take their SATs tests next week. Taking tests is not always the nicest experience, but our year 6 children are taking these tests after a significant disruption to their education due to COVID. We are very proud of the resilience and courage that the children have demonstrated with their learning. They have all made super progress this year and should go into next week with confidence. As well as their tests, the teachers will plan fun activities. After the last test on Thursday, all year 6 children will be rewarded with a donut!

Year 5 Residential

Our year 5 children are off to Bath on Monday for their residential trip. The children need to be at school for 7:45 am so that they are all ready to leave at 8:30. Please ensure that any medicines and forms are handed into staff. The staff will aim to have the children back in school by 4pm on Tuesday. However, if there are any changes to that time, the office will update you. We hope that they all have a fabulous time!

Information

Important Dates:

9th May 9th - 10th May	SATS week Yr 5 Bristol residential
12th May	Ascension Day mass led by School Chaplains
17th & 18th May	EYFS Stay and Play
20th May	May Crowning led by Rougemont
23rd and 24th May	Yr 3 residential - Ultimate Adventure Centre Bideford

Living and Learning in Spirit and in Truth

30th - 6th June	Half term. Children come back on Tuesday 7th June
13th - 17th June	Yr 6 residential to Kilve
21st June	Sports Day - more details to follow
1st July	PTA Summer Social **Save the Date**

Disciples of the week			
Compton	Amara / Chloe	Okehampton	Oscar N / Emily
Berry Pomeroy	Rianna / Zofia	Lydford	Ellie / Jacob
Plympton	All Yr 6 / Danielius	Dartmouth	Orla / Mattia
Totnes	Sivani / Arabella	Drogo	Mia / Samuel
Kingswear	Sophia	Nursery	Emily / All new Nursery children
Rougemont	Annabelle	<i>Well done to you all!</i>	

Information

Nursery

We have September (Autumn term) spaces in our Nursery for 3 and 4 year old children. We offer the local authority 15 hours funding as well as the extended 30 hour funding for eligible families. We would be delighted to show prospective parents our Nursery in action and to answer any questions they may have about joining our school community. Please contact Mrs Brocksom (abrocksom@stnecs.uk / 01392 445403 option 4) to arrange a visit or to find out more.

Teacher Vacancy

We have a vacancy for a KS2 teacher from September 22. Please see our [website](#) for more details and application forms.

Foundation Governor Vacancy

In September we will have a vacancy for a Foundation Governor. A Foundation Governor is appointed by the Bishop and would serve on the Local Governing Board for up to three 4 year terms. If you are interested in finding out more about this role and how to apply please contact Mrs Brocksom, Clerk to Governors (abrocksom@stnecs.uk).

Medical Absences

If your child is to be absent from school due to a medical appointment please make sure you let the office know **in advance , including whether they will need a lunch booked.** Please also provide evidence of the appointment to the office.

News

Devon Wildlife Trust Visit

Paul from the Devon Wildlife Trust came in to launch the Yr ½ History topic. They are exploring Mary Anning's impact on our local area and what we know now because of her work. During the session they learnt what a fossil is through a super hands on workshop with puzzles to complete and real fossils to explore. The session gave them an opportunity to use our questioning skills and use language including; old, past, then and now.

PTA

Drop Off Drop In

Thanks to all the wonderful parents that came to our first Drop Off Drop In last week, it was so nice to meet such a lovely group of people. We look forward to welcoming new faces and catching up with familiar faces each week. Please feel free to drop by, anytime between 8:45 and 10am on a Friday, for some tea / coffee and biscuits! We plan to meet in the Bickleigh room (the room behind the decked area, to the left of the Key stage one classrooms), each week. You can join the parent group on Classlist 'Drop Off Drop In' to get regular updates to any special activities we may be planning, or any changes we need to inform you of.

Volunteers

Thank you so much to the parents that have had time to fill in our 'PTA Involvement' Form. If you are able to, we really appreciate you taking a minute or 2 out of your day to let us know if you are able to help in any way, big or small, with regards to future events and fundraisers. Whether it be to volunteer for a half hour slot at an event, or to give contact details of a company you know that may be able to donate to a fundraiser, we are delighted to hear from you. Follow this link, to give your feedback!

Summer Social - 1st July 4pm - 7pm

Planning is underway, we've just booked some exciting inflatable fun for the children and the fun loving adults to enjoy! Watch this space to get access to earlybird and group discount prices on wristbands, to allow your whole family to enjoy unlimited fun on inflatables, including a giant inflatable assault course and a bungee run! Kids can challenge the adults or just entertain themselves whilst adults (hopefully) enjoy the sunshine! We will also be offering a 'pay as you go' option on the day! Get in touch for more info, or if you want to get involved in planning, pta@stnics.uk!

Community News

DCC Parent's Childcare Survey

Calling all parents and carers living or working in Devon. We need your help this summer! Whether you currently use childcare or not, your voice counts. The answers you give in this short survey will help the early years and childcare team at Devon County Council to plan and make sure that there is enough childcare available in Devon. The survey is open until Tuesday 24th May. To take part, visit

devon.cc/parents-childcare-survey

Prayer

For Flowers That Bloom

For flowers that bloom about our feet; For tender grass, so fresh, so sweet;
For song of bird, and hum of bee; For all things fair we hear or see,
Father in heaven, we thank Thee!

For blue of stream and blue of sky; For pleasant shade of branches high;
For fragrant air and cooling breeze; For beauty of the blooming trees,
Father in heaven, we thank Thee!

Ralph Waldo Emerson

