



# St Nicholas Catholic Primary School

## Newsletter 10th October 2022

**Executive Head: Mrs Cathy Blatchford    Head of School: Miss Kelli Reynolds**

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

01392 445403    admin@stncls.uk

Website: [www.st-nicholas-exeter.devon.sch.uk](http://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: Miss S Boulton & Mrs C Blatchford

Named Governors for Child Protection: Mrs F Dennehy and Mr J Cookson

### Head of School's News

#### Open library

Mrs Hawkins and Mrs Hughes are making our school library available for our children to visit with their parents on a Monday evening after school. This is the perfect opportunity to support your child in selecting a book and have those conversations about what your child is reading. Please feel free to pop in to the library on a Monday- we look forward to seeing you there!

#### Parents' evening

Thank you to all the parents who attended parents' evening held on Thursday 6th October. We hope it was a useful opportunity to discuss how well your child has settled into the new school year and that you were able to ask any questions that you may have had. We have another parents' evening scheduled for Tuesday 11th October. Please do contact your child's class teacher if you have been unable to arrange an appointment and they will try to organise a mutually convenient time to meet.

#### Uniform

Children are able to continue wearing summer uniforms until October half term. Please ensure that if your child is missing any uniform items that you let the class teacher know. Can I please remind you all that long hair (below shoulder length) should be tied up at all times and jewellery (apart from stud earrings) is not permitted.

### Information

<b>10th October</b>	World Mental Health Awareness Day
<b>11th October</b>	Second Parents Evening 3.30 - 6pm
<b>13th October</b>	Harvest Liturgy led by Lydford 2.15pm. Lydford parents are welcome to attend.
<b>21st October</b>	Caps for Cash - see below Break up for half term
<b>24th - 31st October</b>	Half term. <b>Children return on Tuesday 1st November</b>
<b>1st November</b>	All Saints Day Mass

## Disciples of the week - *Well done to you all!*

<b>Compton</b>	Mia	<b>Okehampton</b>	Harry / Andrea
<b>Plympton</b>	Isaac / Seb	<b>Lydford</b>	Alexander / Thea
<b>Berry Pomeroy</b>	Liv and Ewan	<b>Dartmouth</b>	Suzy / Ayva
<b>Totnes</b>	Ellie / Kyron	<b>Drogo</b>	Sofia / Alex
<b>Kingswear</b>	Ronnie / Seth	<b>Powderham</b>	Finn / Annabelle
<b>Rougemont</b>	Rougemont Class	<b>Nursery</b>	Somaieh / Mollie

## Information

### Dogs on Site

Please note that dogs are not allowed anywhere on the school site. They should also not be tied up at the school gates and left unattended.

### Nut free school



A reminder that we are a **nut free school**. We have a number of children with severe nut allergies. Children may **not** bring in nuts in packed lunch boxes or as a snack. If found they will be confiscated until the end of the day to ensure there is no risk to those who are allergic to nuts.

### Nursery

We have spaces in our Nursery for 3 and 4 year old children from January 2023. 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@stnics.uk](mailto:abrocksom@stnics.uk) / 01392 445403 option 4) to arrange a visit or to find out more.

### Reception Tours - Reception Class 2023

Open Days for prospective parents of children entering Reception in 2023 will be held at **9.30am and 6pm on 9th and 10th November**. Please contact Mrs Brocksom (see above) to book a place and to find out more information

### Data Collection Sheets

At Parent Evenings you have been (or will be given) a printed data collection sheet to check your contact information. Please amend any details that are incorrect and hand this form back to the office or your child's teacher as soon as possible. These forms are important to ensure we have the correct information on our database. Please contact the office if you have any queries.

### Harvest Thanksgiving Liturgy: Food Donations collection

*Jesus said, 'I was hungry and you gave me food.....anything you did for any of my people here, you also did for me.'* Matthew 25:35, 40

Children are invited to bring in a food donation in aid of the Exeter Food Bank. Donations will be collected every day this week until Thursday and can be placed in the atrium around the focal point. Please do not donate perishable items (fresh fruit and vegetables, etc).

Thank you for your support.

## News

### News from the Eco Warriors



The eagle eyed among you may have noticed a new addition to our school garden. We have had a hedgehog house made for us out of donated recycled materials and this has been tucked into a quiet area of the garden ready for a prickly friend to hibernate in.

We have also added two bird boxes to the garden, in preparation for the Spring, which we bought with money raised by the Eco Warriors last term.

**Reminder** - we are still collecting plastic milk bottle lids to be recycled to raise money for the Dartmoor Zoological Society and the mental health charity Mind. Please keep sending lids into school with your child.

### Yr 5/6 news

It continues to be an exciting and very busy time in year 5/6. We've continued to work on our descriptive pieces of writing in literacy, seeing how we can spot mistakes and up-level our work to include more detail. In maths we've begun to move on from place value and negative numbers, now we're starting to look at addition and subtraction of 5 digit numbers!

Thank you to those who brought in torches, the science experiment looking at length and shape of shadow was a great success. In art we are starting to think about our final pop art pieces, and finally in geography we have continued to look at world trade and different sources of energy.

## PTA

We have our AGM booked for Thursday 20th October. Find more details and [RSVP in your Classlist Events](#) or [by clicking HERE!](#)

This also means, we have just under 2 weeks before we will be voting in our new PTA Committee. We have nominees for the Treasurer and Secretary roles, however we do NEED a Chairperson to allow the PTA to continue. Therefore, if you feel this role is something you could do, we would love to hear from you. You would have the support of the previous and new Committee members, as well as the option of Co-Chairing with the current Chair for a few months if this is more in your comfort zone.

If we are able to fill the role, we do already have members in place that are happy to take the lead on planning the following socials for the children and parents to enjoy this academic year:

Christmas Disco

Easter Colour Run

Summer Social

Pop Up Cafe (twice a month before pick up)

Ideally, the Chair would be someone who is able to prepare an agenda and organise meetings, as well as, be able to drive forward event ideas by supporting the event planners and committee members. But ultimately, a named Chair is required for the PTA to continue as a charity.

Thanks all, please email [pta@stncls.uk](mailto:pta@stncls.uk) for more information

## Community News

### Caps for Cash - 21st October

#### COULD YOU IMAGINE WEARING SHOES TO SCHOOL EVERY DAY THAT DON'T FIT PROPERLY ?

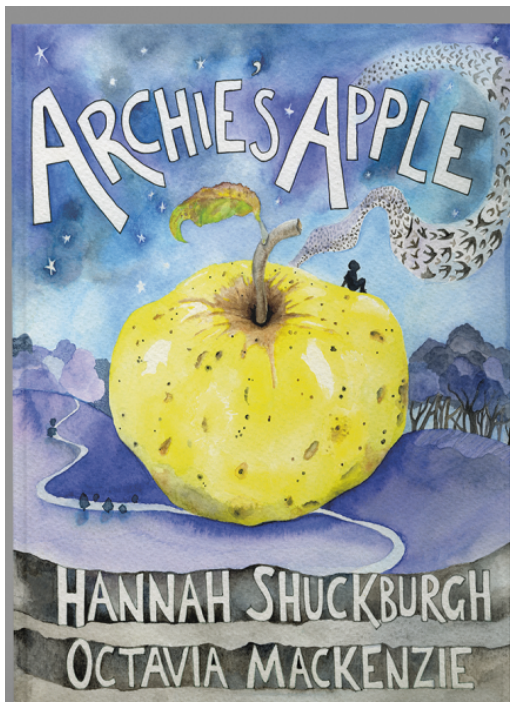
As part of their Good Shepherd programme this year, **The Catholic Children's Society (Plymouth)** is asking children living in our Diocese to think of children less fortunate than themselves by wearing something different on their head to school for one day. They are asking children living in Devon, Cornwall and parts of Dorset to get creative and wear something different on their heads to school for one day to support their '**Caps for Cash**' Good Shepherd initiative to help raise money for the CCSP.

**If ten schools could raise £100 in donations, CCSP could buy school uniform including school shoes for approximately 12 - 15 children, so they never have to wear ill-fitting shoes to school ever again.**

Please be a Good Shepherd by thinking of other children less fortunate than yourself and get creative by wearing something silly on your head on the 21st October for a small donation of £1 to help raise money for CCSP. **Thank you !!**



### Archie's Apple



I wanted to get in touch to let you know about a lovely free event I am doing on Tuesday 25 October (during half term) at 3pm, at Exeter Waterstones bookshop, which I thought your pupils might really enjoy.

My new picture book for children is to be published in October and we're coming to Exeter Waterstones to do a lovely story-time and fun apple-drawing activity for children - it's all completely free to attend.

Archie's Apple is a beautiful, full-colour, hard-back picture book, illustrated by Octavia Mackenzie, and written by me, Hannah Shuckburgh, about a little boy who discovers a new variety of apple while playing in woodland. It's inspired by a true story: my husband, Archie Thomas, really did discover a new variety of apple while walking in the West Country in 2020 (his discovery was featured in newspapers all over the world - you might remember it). Archie's Apple is aimed at children aged 3 to 9. You can see more of the book on the publishers website here:

<https://www.littletoller.co.uk/shop/books/little-toller/new-books/archies-apple/>

I would so love to see some of your pupils there, if they'd like to come. Of course if they'd like to buy a book we'll be signing copies on the day. Thank you so much All the best, Hannah Shuckburgh



## Santa Cycle



The poster features a large illustration of a yellow and blue cruise ship. At the top left is the 'force cancer charity' logo with the tagline 'Never needed you so much'. To its right, it says 'Sponsored by: The Family Law Co. by Richard Chiswell'. Further right, it says 'Supported by:' followed by 'bike shed' and 'Stuart Line' logos. The main title 'SANTA CYCLE and CRUISE' is in large, bold, red-outlined white letters. Below the title are three Polaroid-style photos: the first shows people in Santa suits cycling with the caption 'Ho Ho Ho - Merry Cycle'; the second shows a child in a Santa suit on a bike with the caption 'Cycle paths used - ideal for families'; the third shows a man and a woman in Santa hats with the caption 'Enjoy mulled wine and mince pies!'. At the bottom, the date 'Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> November 2022' is prominently displayed, followed by the text 'Everyone in Santa Suits. Adults and Children welcome.' and 'Cycle from Topsham to Exmouth. Return on Stuart Line Cruise Boat.' A blue banner below this says 'Second route added! You can now choose to cycle from Exmouth to Topsham.' The bottom-most text provides the website: 'Enter at: [forcecancercharity.co.uk/events-calendar/santa-cycle](https://forcecancercharity.co.uk/events-calendar/santa-cycle)'.

force cancer charity  
Never needed you so much

Sponsored by:  
The Family Law Co.  
by Richard Chiswell

Supported by:  
bike shed Stuart Line

# SANTA CYCLE and CRUISE

Ho Ho Ho - Merry Cycle

Cycle paths used - ideal for families

Enjoy mulled wine and mince pies!

## Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> November 2022

Everyone in Santa Suits. Adults and Children welcome.  
Cycle from Topsham to Exmouth. Return on Stuart Line Cruise Boat.

Second route added! You can now choose to cycle from Exmouth to Topsham.

Enter at: [forcecancercharity.co.uk/events-calendar/santa-cycle](https://forcecancercharity.co.uk/events-calendar/santa-cycle)

## Shrek the Musical – local theatre production

Local theatre group, Exeter Musical Society presents Shrek the Musical.

The show celebrates diversity and self-acceptance, in a breathtaking musical adaptation of the hit movie Shrek! Shrek the Musical is a fun-filled night at the theatre for everyone that will have you dancing in the aisles and singing all the way home! Shrek the Musical takes to The Northcott Theatre, Exeter Tuesday to Saturday 22-26 November 2022. Nightly performances at 7pm with matinees on Wednesday 23rd and Saturday 26th at 2pm. Exeter Musical Society is excited to announce that for the first time we will be offering two BSL interpreted performances on Saturday the 26th.

The matinee performance on Wednesday the 23rd will be a relaxed performance, suitable for those with sensory needs. House lights will remain on, lighting and sound effects will be reduced, and normal theatre etiquette will be relaxed. There will also be a quiet room available for anyone who needs a break during the performance.

**Living and Learning in Spirit and in Truth**

## **A Prayer for Our School**

God, please bless our school.

Thank You for all of the teachers that work so hard to help us learn.

Thank You for break time and lunchtime, when we get to play with our friends.

Thank You for providing a place where we can learn more about the world

You created for us to live in, and how it works.

Please keep our school safe.

Protect all of the grown ups and children that come to school everyday.

Protect us from harm, and help us to be kind to each other.

Amen.

