

St Nicholas Catholic Primary School Newsletter

5th October 2018



Living and Learning in
Spirit and in Truth

Stars of the Week

Compton - Namitha
Plympton - Clarice
Berry Pomeroy – Katy G
Totnes - Athena
Kingswear - Mollie
Rougemont - Amy
Okehampton - Clara
Dartmouth - Jesse
Drogo - Alexander
Powderham - Sivani
Nursery - Maja
Compton - Wiktoria
Berry Pomeroy - Billy
Totnes – Jack
Kingswear – Alex K
Rougemont - Chloe
Okehampton - Anwen
Lydford - Tilly
Dartmouth - Filip
Drogo - Skylar
Powderham - Seth
Nursery - Sophia

Well done to you all!



Diary Dates

October	
7 th	School led mass Blessed Sacrament 10.30am
16 th	9.15am Harvest Liturgy led by Dartmouth Class
19 th	Individual photos
22 – 26 th	Half Term
November	
2 nd	9.15am All Saints Liturgy led by Rougemont
6 th & 8 th	EYFS Stay and Play 8.30 – 9.30am

Headteacher: Mrs A Folland

Headteacher's News

The new school councils (Behaviour and Welfare, Teaching, Play and Curriculum) will start to meet next week. We are excited to involve the children more in decisions that will affect them in school and to find out their views and ideas.

I am also looking forward to meeting parents on Tuesday afternoon to discuss and receive contributions about the vision and values of Plymouth CAST (see below).

Information

School led Mass: Blessed Sacrament, 10:30 7th October

You and your family are invited to come and celebrate with us as we lead Sunday Mass with Fr Jonathan at the Blessed Sacrament. Children should be in school uniform please.

School Photos

Tempest photographers will come on the 19th October to take individual and sibling photos. We organise the sibling photos in school but if you wish to have a photo of you or another family member (such as an older or younger sibling who is **NOT** at St Nicholas) with your children please come to the hall at 8.15am as these will be taken first of all. Please also ensure your child/ren are in the correct uniform.

CAST Consultation – Vision and Values

The CEO of Plymouth CAST, Raymond Friel, has started a process of consultation about the Vision and Values of Plymouth CAST. All stakeholders in every CAST school are being consulted including staff, governors, parents and children. It is "an opportunity to have your say on the vision, mission, values, principles and behaviours which will bring about a step change in the quality of education in CAST schools, inspired by the Gospel and the teaching of the Catholic Church".

Documents were sent out on Parentmail last week that we were asked to share with you and we would welcome your views on the 7 questions included in the Vision and Values Consultation paper. We are happy to have these emailed to head@stnics.uk or we would welcome you to a meeting with Mrs Folland on **Tuesday 9th October from 2.15 -3.15pm** in the Bickleigh Room to discuss and obtain your views (if you are able to come to this meeting please advise Ali - abrocksom@stnics.uk). The deadline for us to submit collated responses to CAST is the 15th October.

Parking

I recently received the following email last week from a resident of Ringswell Avenue:

"There has been an ongoing problem with the child pickup times outside the school and today has been the worst so far! Nowhere to park my car outside my house! Whilst your parents are parking over driveways. I will not risk a parking ticket for parking along a double yellow line."

The time I have to take in dealing with resident's complaints about parent's parking is increasing. Once again I ask you to park considerately wherever you park and not over people's drives. Also, please be reminded that the staff car park is only for staff and parents with specific permission. Some parents are still finding ways to park there, whether this is coming in extra early to secure a place or driving in when our caretaker Neil is not manning the gates. We have had a number of incidents where staff are unable to park and start work due to parents taking up all of the available places.

Please find other places to park or alternative ways to come to school.

Safeguarding

There is a new app and online game that is going viral among many school age pupils. The game is called DOKI DOKI (literature club). The game is advertised as a school dating app and does not require parental checks to download. It is a free app and although users should be 13+ years, children can easily agree to being over the age. It begins as a colourful and light-hearted game but takes a sinister turn within an hour of children playing, where their online friend starts to talk about depression and eventually commits suicide. Police have issued a warning over the free-to-play game, labelling it a 'risk to children and young people'.

Please check that your children do not have this app installed or play this online.

Summer Reading Challenge

Well done to all children who completed the Summer Reading Challenge over the holidays. They will receive their prizes today at Celebration Assembly. Look out for our Spring Challenge which will take the children around the world through books!

Lost Property

We have lost bunches of keys, glasses and a watch in the office. Please come to claim them if yours.



Totnes Learning Assembly



Well done to Totnes Class who led the learning assembly last week on the topic of electricity. It was very informative and entertaining!

Berry Pomeroy lead the next learning assembly at 9am on 13th November. Parents are welcome to attend.

Parish and Community News

Drop Off Drop In

It was lovely to see so many parents join us this morning for Drop Off Drop In, our weekly Friday coffee morning. All parents are welcome to join us at 8.45am for fresh coffee and delicious cakes and to meet friends old and new.

Be a Chorister for a Day

Exeter Cathedral is holding a special day for children in Yrs 3-5 from Devon Schools to experience a day in the life of a Cathedral Chorister. It is free with no obligation and is designed to engage children in singing. It is on Saturday 1st December and runs from 10am to 6pm in the Cathedral. The School Office has some booking forms and early booking is advised. You can also contact clare.sturdy@exeter-cathedral.org.uk for more information.

Exeter Children's Orchestra

Exeter Children's Orchestra (ECO) was formed to give children (aged 7-18), who are learning to play musical instruments, the opportunity to play and perform together, whilst promoting the development of musical talent and appreciation. We are aware that funding constraints across the education sector are squeezing the provision for music and the arts at all key stages, and the ECO aims to help fill this gap for children from all backgrounds.

ECO meet every Saturday morning at 9.45 (during term time) at St Leonard's Primary School, Exeter. We also play several concerts during the year. We welcome new children any Saturday.

What's happening next...?

We try to organise a varied programme of experiences for the children:

- In October - we are running a workshop with professional musicians from the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra.
- In November - we are doing a 'Flash Mob' performance in the Exeter Princesshay shopping centre (don't tell anybody!).
- In December - our most ambitious project to date - we are performing THE SNOWMAN

Children in ECO make rapid progress through their music exam grades and they bring their enhanced musicianship into school every single day. What's more, they really enjoy their Saturday mornings with us! For more information you can visit www.exeterchildrensorchestra.co.uk

Prayer to St Francis of Assisi

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace; where there is hatred, let me sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is discord, union; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; and where there is sadness, joy

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 Officer: **Mrs Angela Folland** Deputy Child Protection Officers: Mrs L Stone, Mrs S Beach, Mrs D Sparkes, Miss C Follows and Miss R Reynolds. Named Governor for Child Protection: Mrs Lucy Wills



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ITE Partner

