



Together with Christ we
love, live & learn.

St. Nicholas Catholic Primary School

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Executive Principal: Mr N Porter

Dear Parents & Carers,

Friday 28th February 2025



Pilgrims of Hope

St. Nicholas pupils had a wonderful day on Friday. They stepped away from their usual timetable to dedicate the entire day to progressing on our *Jubilee Journey*.

All classes learned about *Holy Doors*, their significance in a Jubilee year, and how they too can "open the door" to Christ. Each class has created its own *Jubilee Door*—decorating the classroom doors—which will remain in place throughout the Jubilee year. You'll be able to see them at Parents' Evenings.

Check out Twitter for photos and videos of our *Jubilee Journey*!



Lent

This Wednesday, 5th March, marks Ash Wednesday, the beginning of the season of Lent. KS2 will be joining the Parish Mass in church at 10:00 am, and you are, of course, more than welcome to join us. EYFS and KS1 pupils will have their own service of ashes with Father Allen in the afternoon. To help families prepare for this season, next week's newsletter will include a document outlining the events and liturgies of Lent at St Nicholas School.



For now, we kindly ask KS2 parents to save the dates for the **Passion Play** performances. Please note that there is a change this year: we will have one afternoon performance and one morning performance. These performances will be ticketed and will take place on:

- **Monday, 31st March** at 2:00 pm
- **Tuesday, 1st April** at 9:15 am

We look forward to celebrating this meaningful season with you.

Wednesday Word

Please follow the link below to enjoy this week's Gospel as a family:

[Click HERE for the Wednesday Word](#)

Ensuring Safe and Smooth Dismissals at the End of the School Day

Safeguarding our pupils is our number one priority at St. Nicholas. To ensure we have the most robust procedures in place when dismissing pupils at the end of the school day, we kindly ask for your support.



You can help us by:

- Ensuring that collection arrangements are made in good time and communicated to the school—preferably via email—**before 2:30 pm**. *Office staff regularly receive calls and emails as late as 3:28 pm! This makes it impossible to safely communicate changes to class teachers and results in office staff running around the school rather than being in the office.*
- Collecting your child/grandchild and moving away from the area as quickly as possible. We are aware that the EYFS/KS1 path can become congested, so please keep this area clear. For any after-school chats, please head up to the footpath to avoid blocking the paths.
- Not calling to your child/grandchild to come to you before the adult in charge has formally dismissed them. *Please pass this message on to grandparents and other family members who may collect your child.*

Thank you for your cooperation in keeping our pupils safe!

Sensory Room Makeover & Dining Room Refresh

We owe a huge debt of gratitude to Mrs. Michelle McGarvie, one of our parents, and her wonderful colleagues at JLR who completed a makeover of our Sensory Room over half term. The newly refurbished room now provides a calm and soothing environment for pupils who need regulation. Please feel free to pop in at the beginning or end of the day to have a look at the beautiful transformation!

As if that wasn't enough, Mrs. McGarvie's colleagues also volunteered to come back and refresh our dining room - all for free! They have been working hard each evening this week, and the dining room is now looking fresh and bright for our pupils. What a wonderful sense of community, with everyone pulling together to help!

PFA events



[Mother's Day Tea - Tickets Now on Sale!](#)

We are excited to announce that tickets are now available for our Mother's Day Tea! Join us on **Thursday, 27th March** from **3:30 pm to 5:00 pm** for a lovely afternoon celebrating all the wonderful mothers and mother figures in our community.

[Follow this link to purchase tickets for the Mothers' Day Tea](#) - Hurry, spaces are limited!

We look forward to celebrating this special day with you!

[Time for the Spring Lotto!](#)

Tickets are now available online for our Spring Lotto, and there will be TWO opportunities to buy tickets at school assembly before the draw on **4th April**.

50/50 Cash Prize Breakdown:

- 🏆 £500
- 🏆 £250
- 🏆 £100

Tickets are also available online via the link below:

[Spring Lotto Ticket Purchase](#)

Please share this with family and friends! We are incredibly grateful for your support in raising funds for the school.

Good luck to everyone, and thank you for being part of this exciting event! 🍀🍀🍀

The PFA Lottery Team ❤️

Next PFA Meeting - Thursday, 6th March at 6:00 pm

The next PFA meeting will be held on **Thursday, 6th March at 6:00 pm in school**. Come along and share your ideas to help shape the future of the PFA. Your contribution can be as big or as small as you like - your school needs YOU!

We look forward to seeing you there and working together to make a positive impact for our school community.

Sutton Coldfield Charitable Trust - Uniform Grant

SCCT are launching their clothing grant programme and are offering parents or carers, who are in receipt of any of the following support payments, £100 towards the cost of school uniform. The vouchers will be sent directly to parents and carers and can be spent in Clive Mark, Boldmere or Crested Schoolwear, Sutton Coldfield.

- Income Support
- Child Tax Credit
- Working Tax Credit
- Job Seeker's Allowance
- Employment and Support Allowance
- Universal Credit



If you think that you may be eligible, you can apply online from March 1st 2025 by visiting the SCCT website or, if you would like some support in applying, please get in touch with Miss Smith via the enquiry email address.

Year 6 Vocations Week

As part of our forthcoming Vocations Week in Year 6, we would like to invite you to share your career journey, experiences, and insights with our students. This is a wonderful opportunity to highlight how each of us is called to use our God-given gifts and talents in our work and daily lives as well as the diverse paths that lead us there. Please note that your child doesn't have to be in Y6 to take part. Vocations Week will be held from **Monday 23rd-Friday 27th June 2025**, and we are looking for volunteers who would be willing to speak about their careers, discuss the skills and education needed for their field, and answer any questions our students may have. If you are interested in participating, please get in touch with Miss Smith via enquiry@stnicholassutton.org.uk.

World Book Day - Thursday 6th March

Children will be celebrating World Book Day this week by participating in a variety of activities from BBC live lessons to creating bookmarks and even visiting Boldmere library (Reception class only).

Pupils are invited to bring in their 'book in a box' competition entry to be displayed in the school hall. We cannot wait to see all of the entries! To alleviate some financial pressure on parents, we have decided not to have a second Scholastic Book Fair and pupils are not being asked to dress up this year. Pupils will still receive a £1 book token that can be spent at local bookstores and supermarkets.

Non Uniform day - International Women's Day - Friday 7th March

This Friday, 7th March, our school will celebrate International Women's Day. Each class will focus on a woman of notable achievement across various fields. Students will explore her life, work, and legacy, gaining inspiration from the impact these women have made in the world. It's a wonderful opportunity to reflect on their contributions and empower the next generation to make their own mark.



To further celebrate this day, Bentley in Year 4 has asked if he can run a fundraiser for a woman of inspiration and impact in his life. Bentley has been inspired by a lady he knows who has set up and runs a home for abandoned cats. She takes them in, nurses them back to health, and then re-homes them.

In order to support this cause, Friday, 7th March will be a non-uniform day. **Pupils are invited to bring £1 to donate to the cat's home and wear non-uniform, perhaps with a red or pink theme as a nod to International Women's Day.** We look forward to celebrating and helping Bentley raise money for this wonderful cause!

Reminder: Remaining INSET Days

A reminder that we have three remaining INSET days this academic year:

- **Monday, 2nd June**
- **Friday, 4th July**
- **Monday, 21st July**

Thank you for your support in noting these important dates.

'Do Justice' Event - Saturday, 8th March

Attached to this email, you will find a flyer from Father Allen regarding an event he is organising and hosting on **Saturday, 8th March from 11am** in the St Nicholas School hall.

'Do Justice' is an event designed to bring together schools, parishes, charities, and other voluntary sector organisations that work to improve social justice and support individuals and families in Sutton Coldfield. 'Catholic Sutton Coldfield' is an initiative designed to unite the parishes of Sutton Coldfield.

You are more than welcome to attend if you would like to learn more, join the discussion, or if you have links to any local charities or organizations that may be interested in this initiative.

We hope to see you there!

****Exciting Opportunity** My Mind Matters Parent Workshop**

Date: Wednesday, 26th March

Time: 9:15 AM to 10:45 AM

Location: School Hall

Hosted by: Our Place

Objective: This workshop aims to empower parents with the knowledge and tools necessary to support their children in developing positive mental health and wellbeing. Recognising that mental

health is a dynamic aspect of life, the session will focus on providing resources and strategies that parents can share with their children to foster resilience.

Key Takeaways:

- **Understanding Mental Health:** Learn how mental health evolves as children grow and navigate life's challenges.
- **Strategies for Parents:** Acquire practical tips and resources to help children build positive mental health and resilience.
- **Community Support:** Connect with other parents in a supportive environment to share experiences and advice.

All are welcome to attend this informative and interactive session.

Gifts from God assemblies - future dates

During Spring 2, our school will host 'Gifts from God' celebration assemblies on the following dates:

- 7th March
- 21st March
- 4th April



These assemblies are an opportunity for pupils to reflect on and celebrate the gifts and talents given to them by God.

Attendance

Let's see which class had the highest attendance this week...

Year group	Attendance for w/c 24th February
EYFS	96.62%
Year 1	96.33%
Year 2	98% Winners!
Year 3	95.81%
Year 4	96.13%
Year 5	97.33%
Year 6	97.33%
Well done to this week's winners...Year 2! You can negotiate your reward with Mrs Rehman next week.	

Dates for the diary

Saturday 1st March	Swimming gala at Wyndley Leisure Centre
Wednesday 5th March	Ash Wednesday KS2 attending Parish Mass in church at 10am EYFS/KS1 having their own service of ashes with Father Allen in the afternoon

Thursday 6th March	World Book Day Final day to submit entries for the 'Book in a box' competition
Thursday 6th March	PFA Meeting 6pm in school
Friday 7th March	Non-uniform day - £1 Can wear red/pink for International Women's Day
Friday 7th March	Year 5 'Stay and Pray' - 9am
W/c 10th March & W/c 17th March	Year 3 swimming at Wyndley Leisure Centre
Friday 14th March	Year 2 'Stay and Pray' - 9am
Friday 21st March	Year 6 'Stay and Pray' - 9am
Tuesday 25th March	Y3 & 4 Pyjama Stories - 5pm
Wednesday 26th March	**All parents & carers invited** 'My Mind Matters' workshop - how to help your child stay mentally healthy. School hall - 9.15am to 10.45am
Thursday 27th March	PFA Mothers' Day Tea - 3.30pm to 5pm
Friday 28th March	Year 4 'Stay and Pray' - 9am
Monday 31st March	2pm - KS2 Passion Play performance to parents
Tuesday 1st April	9.15am - KS2 Passion Play performance to parents
Wednesday 2nd April to Friday 4th April	Year 5 residential to Alton Castle
Friday 4th April	Year 1 'Stay and Pray' - 9am
Tuesday 8th and Wednesday 9th April	Parents' Evenings (Y3 book look)
Thursday 10th April	Year 2 trip to Twycross Zoo
Friday 11th April	Year 3 'Stay and Pray' - 9am
Friday 11th April	Last day of Spring Term. School breaks up for Easter.

Easter Holidays

School closed weeks commencing 14th April and 21st April 2025

All pupils back in school on Monday 28th April

Monday 5th May	'May Day' bank holiday - school closed
Thursday 8th May	Y1 trip to Botanical Gardens
Monday 12th May to Thursday 15th May inclusive	Key Stage 2 SATs tests administered
Friday 16th May	Year 3 trip to Blists Hill Victorian Town
Friday 16th May	Official photographers to take Y6 leavers' photos
Friday 16th May	Sacrament of Confirmation for Y6 confirmandi celebrated by Bishop David Evans - 7pm
Friday 23rd May	Last day of Summer 1 - break up for half term
May half term School closed during week commencing 26th May 2025	
Monday 2nd June	INSET Day - school closed to pupils
Tuesday 3rd June to Friday 13th June	Multiplication Tables Check administered to Y4 pupils
W/c Monday 9th June	Phonics Screening Check administered to Year 1
W/c Monday 9th June	Year 6 swimming week at Wyndley each afternoon
Sunday 22nd June Time TBC	All Year 3 pupils who have received their Holy Communion are invited to attend the 'Going Forth' Mass at 11am wearing their FHC clothes - official p/graphers in school beforehand.
Wednesday 2nd July	Transition Day - Year 6 to their new secondary schools
Friday 4th July	INSET day - all MAC schools closed to pupils
Monday 7th July	Sports' Day at Braemar Fields (a reserve date of 14/7 has been booked in case of inclement weather on 7th)
Saturday 12th July	Y6 Leavers' Mass in church at 6pm

Wednesday 16th July	9.10am - Year 6 Leavers' Assembly
Friday 18th July	9.15am - Whole School end of year Mass in church
Friday 18th July	End of academic year 2024-25 for pupils

Mr Porter

Executive Principal

Mrs Noble-Barton

Head of School

Miss Smith

Assistant Head

St. John Paul II Multi Academy

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