



St Nicholas CE Primary School

Newsletter JULY 2023

Exploring Possibilities Together
'With God all things are possible' Matthew 19 v26



Children come back to school on
Wednesday, 6 September

Inset Days 2023/2024

4 September 2023

5 September 2023

20 October 2023

2 January 2024

19 February 2024

19 September—School Photos

29 September—Flu
Immunisations (further
details to follow)

23—27 October—Half Term

15 December—Last day of
Autumn Term

Headteacher's Message

As we come to the end of another academic year, we often look back and reflect on the year. Believe it or not this is the first 'normal' year we have had where there have been no Covid restrictions imposed in school! So we have been back to normal with trips, events and sporting competitions, and what a year we have had! There have been visitors into school such as Zoolab, who brought some interesting creatures in for Acorns to handle and learn about, trips to Dorchester Museum and Launceston Farm, events to commemorate the Queen and then celebrate the crowning of King Charles and even a Year 6 sleepover. Sporting wise there has been much to celebrate and one of the highlights was our school winning the Sturminster Area school athletics tournament.

This year has also seen St Nicholas join SAST (Sherborne Area Schools Trust) and become part of a bigger family network of schools. As parents you won't see too much of a difference apart from some logos but behind the scenes we can now draw on additional resources and provision to support and develop the school going forward.

I would also like to take this opportunity to say 'thank you' for all your support this year. Especially if you have given up time to help the school or given donations but above all for just being parents /carers and working with us. I hope that you all have a lovely summer holiday and are able to enjoy some family time together. Finally, it's a sad 'goodbye' to the Year 6's as you move on. We wish you all the best for the future and do stay in touch.

Jill Watson



End of Term

Reminder that term ends at
1.30 pm on Friday, 21 July 2023.

Children who are booked into the Ark can stay in school until they are collected by The Ark staff at 3.15 pm.

End of Term Arrangements

There will be a leaver's service in the church this year on Friday, 21 July at 9.00 am. This will be for the whole school and we ask you to drop children off at church on that day at **8.45 am** instead of at school. We will then walk the children back to school in their classes.

All parents are welcome to join us for the service.



Important Information for September

As you know we are already a 'nut free' school, so we would like to remind you that we do have children in school who have allergies to nuts. So please can you think carefully about what you put in their lunch boxes. In addition to this we have a child who is starting with us who also has a significant allergy to milk. This is also a touch allergy, which means if they touch any milk or milk based products then they will have an allergic reaction. We will therefore have to have some changes to some of our routines but the most significant one is that all children and adults will be required to wash their hands more often, particularly after eating, to minimise the risk of transmission. Also, if anyone spills any liquid milk based product on their clothing we will require them to change out of it due to the high risk of transmission.

These changes have been advised through discussions with Health professionals and need to be put in place in order to minimise the risk of a severe reaction.



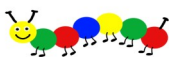
The School Day

Please ensure your child arrives at school by **8.40 am**, ready for registration at 8.45 am. From September Worship will be starting at 8.50 am.

Term Time Holidays

School attendance is vital and the school's attendance figures are closely monitored by the Local Authority and Ofsted. In accordance with Dorset Council Penalty Notice Protocol, children who are taken out of school for a period of 10 sessions (5 days) or more will be referred to the Attendance Team in Children's Services. This may then result in a Penalty notice (fine) being issued.

Staff



Sadly we say goodbye to Mrs Brewer, Mrs Benham and Mrs Wellband at the end of term. Mrs Brewer has been one of our longest serving members of staff having been at St Nicholas for 26 years. We wish them all well in their new ventures.

Miss Brooks will be joining us as Chestnuts new teacher in September. The children have had a chance to meet with her already on Transition Day and she also came in for another day last week.

School Structure

As you know we are lucky that we are going to be able to have 6 classes in school next year. This means we will have a Year R, 1, 2, 3, 4/5 and 5/6. As Year 3 are officially part of KS2 they will now join the routines and structures in the upper part of the school. So Acorns, Chestnuts and Willows will work together as EYFS/KS1 and Ash, Acres and Oaks will together as KS2.

School Uniform

We believe that school uniform plays a valuable role in contributing to the ethos of our school. The aim of our school uniform is to present a smart appearance that promotes a sense of belonging and pride in our school. We thank parents for supporting our Uniform Policy.

Children should not wear jewellery to school as a matter of safety, also we cannot accept responsibility for such items. The only exception is for children with pierced ears. Under these circumstances plain studs may be worn as long as pupils are able to remove them themselves for PE. The best option is not to wear them on PE days.

Older children in Key Stage 2 may wear watches, which must be removed before PE or swimming lessons, and for which the child remains entirely responsible.

Make-up, including nail polish, is not appropriate in school. Haircuts should be neat and tidy. Extreme haircuts are discouraged.

Child Protection

Our Designated Safeguarding Lead in school is Ms Jill Watson (Headteacher). Mrs Belinda Bolar and Mrs Sarah Salisbury are our Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads. If you have any concerns related to child protection issues please contact them through the school office.

