

St Nicholas CE VA Primary School Newsletter

November 2016

Vision Statement

At St Nicholas we nurture everyone to 'be the best we can be 'in a caring and inclusive Christian Environment



DATES

21st November

Parent Forum 6-7pm

23rd November

Calculation Workshop

3.30 pm - 4.30 pm

2nd December -

Parent Consultations

for children on the

SEND register

5th December:

Reception Nativity

2pm and 6pm

6th December: KS2

Carol Service - Church

6:00 pm (All KS2

children are involved)

8th December:

Chestnuts Nativity

2pm and 6pm

9th December:

Parent Consultations:

Years 4, 5 and 6 - 2pm

- 8pm

13th December:

Willows Nativity 2pm

and 6pm

15th December:

Christmas Party

16th December: End

of term Service 9 am

Thank you to all the parents who attended our Remembrance Service on Friday. Unfortunately, I was on a course and unable to attend but was very pleased to receive the following email from Rev Lydia, our Chair of Governors.

Dear Mrs Maley,

I would like to say how wonderful the service was this afternoon. The respect and dignity which the children afforded the fallen dead was heart-warming and by and large exemplary. The year 6's recitation of Flanders Field was very moving and all those who read spoke clearly and with sincerity. Well done. Please pass this message on to all involved. 11.11.16

Well done children – you make me very proud!

A little note of THANKS from the Blandford Food Bank

Dear Mrs Maley ,

Please pass on our thanks to all the children, staff and parents for their wonderful harvest donations. The food bank has now been running for four years and we have seen a steady increase in the number of people coming to us for help. This year we have helped over 721 adults and children locally. I personally have been overwhelmed by the incredible generosity that the community has shown in reaching out to help those within their community.

Many thanks.

Gail

Parental Expertise - As you know, funding for rural schools is a significant problem. Year on year we are asked to respond effectively to changes in the system, without the money to do so. The governors are working hard to explore all possible ways of helping the school to support the needs of the staff and children. As part of this exercise ,we are asking parents to contact the school if they feel they have a particular set of skills or knowledge that would be willing to share with us. For example: Are you in the building trade? Do you have IT skills that could support us? Are you familiar with applying for funding or know of any grants we could explore? If you think you might be able to support our school in any way, we would welcome you contacting us via the school office: office@childokeford.dorset.sch.uk . Many thanks.

Healthy Snacks

We encourage ALL the children to make healthy choices when it comes to snack time. Acorns, Chestnuts and Willows are provided with a piece of fruit or a vegetable every day . If your child is in KS2 (Ash, Acers and Oaks) and need a morning snack, we ask that this be vegetables or a piece of fresh or dried fruit NOT chocolate or crisps. We also encourage all the children to have a bottle of water. Thank you for your continued support.

Parental Workshops Reminder

Maths Workshop for Parents

Just a reminder that Mr Friese – Greene will be leading a Calculation Workshop for parents, on **23rd November at 3:30 – 4:30**. This is another opportunity for parents to gain an understanding of how we teach calculation in school, in each year group. It will also provide you with some tips on how you can support your child at home.

Our revised **Calculation Policy** has now been published on our website, so please take a look.

www.childokeford.dorset.sch.uk . Click on 'About Us' – 'Policies' and look under the following section: **A selection of some of the school's non-statutory policies.**

In the meantime, please keep encouraging your children to learn those all-important tables and division facts. Some useful websites are listed below

<http://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/hit-the-button>

<http://resources.woodlands-junior.kent.sch.uk/maths/timestable/interactive.htm>

Mrs Sanders has also created a RWI page as promised. This contains helpful information and links. It can be found by clicking on the 'Parent' tab on the homepage of our website: www.childokeford.dorset.sch.uk . Please take the time to have a look.

In the meantime, please keep reading with and to your children. Those children who read regularly at home make significantly more progress than those that don't! Together we really can make a greater difference. Thank you for your continued support.

Academy

For some time, the local pyramid of schools has been involved in discussions about how we could work together more closely to improve the education of our children. As a result, the governors have been considering the creation of our own multi academy trust for our area, consisting of our local primaries and secondary school. A letter was sent out on **21st October** inviting parents to a meeting on the **7th November 2016**. There were approximately half a dozen representatives from our parental body at this meeting . This is clearly an important decision affecting children in our community and we would welcome your support in ensuring we reach the right decision for the school and community. We are therefore planning to offer further opportunities for you to share your views and thoughts. The first of these is our termly Parent Forum meeting on the **21st November at 6pm.**

In the meantime, you can find FAQ about Academies on our website, as well as our Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). This document summarises the key elements and principles of the partnership as agreed between the partner schools. I urge all parents to read this.

Thank you for your continued support.

Christmas is coming ...!

Dear Children

Santa rang! He has requested that you write to him from **Monday 21st November to 2nd December**. Please post your letter in the post box outside the school office. Please ensure you clearly address the envelope, to guarantee a response! He looks forward to hearing from you.

Santa Claus

North Pole

HOH OHO



Just to let you know that registration is now open for this years Santa Stride which takes place on the Trailway on **Sunday 4th December.**

Full details including on line registration are available at

SturSantaStride.co.uk

There were over 400 Santas on the Trialway last year and there is a limit to the number that may be fitted in before we must close for new entries and we are emailing people who have taken part in the past to give you the opportunity to register early.

We very much hope that you will be joining us again this year.

Very best wishes from all at Stur. Santa Stride



HALL OF FAME



Class Cups



**Max B , Jeremy , Joseph K, Byron , Reuben K , Archie D ,
Olivia C , Abi B , Maisie M , Harry B , Hayden H , Freddy D-F**

Congratulations to...



Sophia in Year 6 for becoming the South West Tumbling Champion- a great achievement



Congratulations to... Joseph R , also in Year 6 , who continues to win medals for Archery, almost on a weekly basis – FANTASTIC!



Well done to our Y5/ 6 football team , who have successfully qualified for the next round in the Davidson Cup , with a decisive victory against Stalbridge . (6-0)

Other Sporting Events

Orienteering

The year 5 and 6 orienteering team has completed 3 out of their 4 annual fixtures and have enjoyed navigating their way round different school sites using maps and sophisticated electronic check points. Results and a match report are posted on the school PE board and the website. The final fixture will be an exciting torch lit event at Sturminster Newton High School on November 22nd.

Inter House Tournaments.

Key stage 2 children enjoyed an afternoon of competition last Wednesday with all children representing their house in TAG rugby, netball or dodgeball. Everyone participated with great enthusiasm, sportsmanship and commitment. Results and match reports are posted on the school PE board and the website.

Children in Need – Friday, 18th December – NON UNIFORM DAY



Come to school dressed in multicoloured clothes on Friday, 18th December for a small donation to help raise funds for Children In Need.

And finally ... we have been thinking about the value of Peace this half term so I will end by sharing some of their thoughts.

Best Wishes Tracy Maley (Headteacher)

Peace is...

The rising of hope,
The fragile sheet that covers the world,
Without it friendships fall apart,
Countries collapse and wars begin .
Bela P

Peace is...

Like a river of friendship, washing out
horridness and mean actions
Peace is like an ocean of love, awash with
safety and comforting words.
Faith

Peace is ...the one special time to reflect and be calm. It is like a delicate flower blowing gently in the wind. **Charley**

Peace is... a warm blanket that is knitted
together with Love, Hope and Trust.
Georgina P

Peace is ...the warm wind blowing against
the feathers of a dove. **Reuben K**

Peace is ...the warmth of God; as soft as a
feather. **Santi**

Peace is...NOT to be messed with! Peace is
confident, strong and healing! **Archie T**

Current Parent Representatives:

Mrs Carpenter -marioncarpenter@btinternet.com (Willows);

Mrs Andrew - rachel@juddstransport.com (Ash);

Mrs Tonks -samtonks@hotmail.co.uk(Acers);

Mrs Sharples -helenno58@aol.com(Acers) ;

Mrs Belbahi -mehdi.belbahi@btinternet.com (Oaks)

Mrs Rigler –hannahrigler@hsbc.com or hannah.rigler@homecall.co.uk (Oaks)

On a day -to -day basis the school is run by the Head teacher and staff. They are held to account by the Governing Body. If you wish to contact the governors concerning a school related issue or are interested in being a governor please contact our clerk Robert Wellen: robertwellen@btinternet.com Chair of Governors: Rev Lydia Cook Vice Chair of Governors : Oliver Davis