

# St Nicholas CE VA Primary School Newsletter

September 2015 Issue 2

## Vision statement

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

### Dear Parents,

As many of you are aware, with the introduction of the New National Curriculum last year, came a new set of standards and expectations for each year group. We are working hard to try and ensure the vast majority of our children reach these revised expectations and would welcome your support in helping us to do this.

Attached to this letter is a leaflet for parents, which outlines the key concepts and skills your children will be working on this year. This is by no means an exhaustive list but will hopefully help parents to understand what is now expected. These key skills and objectives will be revisited by the children, several times in different contexts, to encourage a depth of understanding and ability to apply their existing knowledge and skills to solve more complex problems.

There will be an opportunity for parents to drop into school on **October 23<sup>rd</sup> between 1:15 – 2:15** (just prior to our Harvest Assembly) to meet with staff informally and ask any questions regarding the curriculum and end of year expectations.

In the meantime, if you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me or speak to your child's class teacher –thank you.

### Staffing

#### Mrs Cowley

Sadly we will be saying goodbye to Mrs Cowley who will be moving on to Gillingham Secondary School on Friday **9<sup>th</sup> October**. Mrs Cowley has worked at the school for ten years and will be greatly missed by children and adults alike. I would like to take this opportunity to thank her for dedication and commitment during this period. She has touched the lives of many children and will be remembered fondly for many years to come! We all wish her every success and happiness in her new post.

#### Miss Thorne

Unfortunately, Miss Thorne is still unwell and unable to return to work. Mrs Sims has agreed to continue to cover in Miss Thorne's absence and thus provide continuity for the children.

#### A REMINDER

On **Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> October** we are holding an information session for parent of children in Year 2 and Year 6. The purpose of this meeting is to update you on the revised 'Statutory Assessment Tests' (**SATs**), which all Year 2 and Year 6 children have to sit in the Summer term. The meetings start at 3:15 and should last no longer than an hour. Mr Friese – Greene will be leading the Year 6 session and in Miss Thorne's absence, I will be leading the Year 2 one. As a consequence of this I will have to cancel the Year 2 sports club this week. Please accept my apologies for any disappointment this may cause.

I hope as many of you as possible will be able to attend. In the meantime if you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me.

## THANK YOU!

OUR SPONSORED BOUNCE raised £1100 – AMAZING! Thank you for all your support and generosity. This money is going towards the new playground equipment. We now have enough funds to start building the play area for our younger children, although the company might not be able to do this until January, due to demand! Nevertheless, this is a fantastic achievement and I'd like to thank the PTFA for their tremendous hard work and determination to see this project through.

In addition to raising funds to improve the playground, the PTFA also helped fund the following last year:

- £1500 was put towards new iPads
- £1000 towards developing our wildlife area
- Coaches for trips
- Theatre companies

In order to raise this they organised a whole host of exciting events including: discos, bingo nights, Christmas parties, movie nights, refreshments at school plays and cake sales etc.

The PTFA are holding their AGM on **Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> October at 7:30** in school. Please come along if you can so you can meet the PTFA and hear a little more about the work they do. They also NEED new members to help this team remain strong and effective. They are friendly and fun and would welcome an injection of new ideas and energy. Whether you can help occasionally or commit regularly they would love to meet you – refreshments are provided! DON'T MISS IT-WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU THERE!

## WALL OF FAME!

### Class Cups

Nicholas	Lilly H
Madison Y	Ewan
Maisie M	Evelyn
Freddy P	Freddy D-F
Lucy B	Isaac
Harry H	James
Nati	Jessica
Ava	Henry
Ollie	Logan

Jacob, Gethin, Noah, Harry B, Sammy,  
Natty Q for their achievements  
outside school -WELL DONE!

### MATHS MASTERS



Sebastian	Emma
Charley	Faith
Noah W- L	Arthur
Edith	Evelyn
Reuben K	Sophia
Madison B	Thomas
Freddie B	Katie
Jacob C	Harry

## Dates Reminders

### October

1st PTFA AGM 7.30 pm in school

Yr 2 & 6 Information evening regarding Statutory Assessment Tests 3.30—4.30 pm

21st 9.30 am M & M Theatre—Jungle Book

23rd Parent Drop in Sessions -1.15 pm to 2.15 pm

23rd 2.30 pm - Harvest Festival in School

23rd - No Dance Club

**PLEASE KEEP LOOKING ON THE 'EVENTS' PAGE ON THE WEBSITE FOR FORTHCOMING EVENTS- THANK YOU.**

### **NEW DATES**

**Parent Forum Dates This is an opportunity for parents to tell us what they think we are doing well and how we might improve.**

Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> November- 6pm – 7pm

Thursday January 14<sup>th</sup> -6pm -7pm

Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> April - 6pm – 7pm

**And finally...** I have attached a summary of our key priorities this year for your information. You will see that one of our priorities is to develop the children's understanding of how to keep safe on the internet. We will also be exploring the dangers of excessive gaming and the effect prolonged screen time is having on our children's ability to concentrate and relate to people in the real world. Our School Council will be carrying out a survey and will be contacting you shortly, to give you an opportunity to share your views on this subject.

In the meantime, I have posted the latest **E-safety and Anti- bullying Newsletters** from the SSCT (Safer Schools Community Team) on the Homepage and Websafety Page, on our school website. They are worth a read so please take a moment to have a look. Keeping children safe is the responsibility of us **ALL**. Thank you for your continued support.

Best wishes,

**Tracy Maley (Headteacher)**

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](mailto:robertwellen@btinternet.com)

Chair of Governors: Liz Sims Vice – chair – Richard Brace Parent Governor – Lisa Cowley