

# St Nicholas CE VA Primary School Newsletter

## September 2016

### Vision Statement

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

Dear Parents

**Welcome back!** I hope you all had a fabulous summer holiday. It was lovely to welcome all the children back this morning. They were full of stories of their Summer holidays and full of energy and enthusiasm for their learning.

A warm welcome to all our new children and their families. The sight of children starting school for the first time is a magical one and their excitement was infectious!

- We have posted term dates onto the website [www.childokeford.dorset.sch.uk](http://www.childokeford.dorset.sch.uk) - **Events Page**. Dates for the year will be uploaded to the website shortly.

### Welcome Back Assembly

At the beginning of every term we hold a short service at the church to welcome the children back. Rev Lydia will be leading these and the first is **this Wednesday, 7<sup>th</sup> September at 9am**. If your children are in Y1-Y6 please drop them off at the church at **8:45**. Please stay and join us if you can. If your child is in **Reception please take them to school as normal**.

### Sponsored Bounce - Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2016

This is our first PTFA fundraising event of the year and always proves very popular with the children and staff! The children will shortly be coming home with a sponsor form. Please look out for this in their book bags. This form also doubles as a consent form so please return it to school **NO LATER** than **Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> September**. The children will not be able to bounce without it!

### Communication

- **Newsletters** are published on our website and emailed to parents monthly, usually on a Monday. Please ensure the office has your latest email address.
- **Curriculum overviews** and homework schedules and expectations can be found on your child's class page, on our website. [www.childokeford.dorset.sch.uk](http://www.childokeford.dorset.sch.uk)
- **Texting** - we have a texting service so please make sure the office has your latest mobile number - thank you.
- **Morning routine**. All children need to be in school promptly at **8:45** for 'Early Morning Work.' This is a short session of approximately 10-15 minutes involving a

short, age- appropriate task, designed to get the children thinking! Although this is only a brief session, it could make a real difference to your child's day! Teachers will use it in a variety of ways: to reinforce key skills, revisit misconceptions from previous learning, introduce an idea, problem solving and discussion. We would appreciate children arriving **promptly**. It is very unsettling for everyone, if children arrive late, but particularly the latecomer. If your child arrives after 8:55, please use the front entrance and sign in at the office. Thank you.

- **Celebration Assemblies** -Every Friday morning at **9am**. We hope as many parents, grandparents and friends of the school can join us for these. Parents of children receiving 'Class Cups' will be notified on the Thursday, prior to the assembly. For those new to our school, we encourage children to share with us any awards or achievements they have accomplished out of school. We also celebrate birthdays during this assembly.

## **VOLUNTEERS**

If you can spare some time to support in school, we would love to hear from you. Having extra adults to hear readers, test times tables, spellings or help with displays is invaluable. For anyone interested, we are running an information session on **Wednesday 14th September at 2:40**. This initial meeting is an opportunity for you to ask questions and discuss any support or training you feel would be beneficial. If you are interested in finding out more, please contact the office:

[office@childokeford.dorset.sch.uk](mailto:office@childokeford.dorset.sch.uk) or complete and return the slip below. If you are interested but unable to attend, please indicate this on the slip and we will contact you to arrange a convenient time. Thank you.

**After School Clubs** -After School Clubs will commence the week beginning the **12<sup>th</sup> September 2016**. Further details to follow.

**Music:** lessons will commence the week the **12<sup>th</sup> September 2016**. Further details on how to enrol your child for piano, recorder, guitar or violin lessons with our peripatetic teachers, will be sent out shortly.

## **Reminders**

**Uniform** Please ensure all uniform and packed- lunch boxes are clearly named. Hair should be tied back and no jewellery except stud earrings please. Thank you for your cooperation.

**Free Infant School Meals** All children in KS1 are entitled to a free school meal. You will need to order online. If you need log in details, please contact the school office.

**Term time holidays** - in line with government guidelines and recent legislation we cannot authorise holidays in term time unless there are **exceptional** circumstances.

**Medical** - Due to some of our children having allergies we are asking parents not to send in cakes for birthdays. **Please let school know if your child has any medical needs.** If your child uses an inhaler, please ensure they have one in school at all times and it is clearly named. Thank you.

**Safety-** Keeping children safe is our top priority at St Nicholas. Please help us to keep everyone safe by:

- Parking outside the school and walking the children in, to help ease the congestion. Do not cut across the car park but use the path provided. **PLEASE DO NOT PARK IN THE DISABLED BAYS BETWEEN 8:30 - 9:15 and 2:45 - 3:30** unless you are entitled to.
- Please enter and leave school via the side gates and not the Main Entrance. This helps staff to monitor those entering the school and helps us to protect the children.

**And finally ...** our value this half term is 'Friendship '. We will be exploring the importance of relationships with the children and how they can positively impact on our community if we work together to achieve our shared aims and vision, '**...to be the best we can be.**'

The staff and governors remain fully committed to improving the quality of learning we offer at St Nicholas and further strengthening our partnership with our parents and the wider community. We very much look forward to working closely with you throughout the year to achieve our goals.

Best Wishes,

Tracy Maley - Heateacher

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*Please TICK as appropriate*

**Volunteering in School**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Parent / grandparent of:** \_\_\_\_\_

I am interested in volunteering in school and can attend the Information Meeting on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> September at 2:40

I am interested in volunteering in school but **CAN NOT** attend the Information Meeting on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> September at 2:40.

**Signed:** \_\_\_\_\_ **September 2016**