



St Nicholas C of E Primary School

September 28th 2018

Term: 1

Newsletter: 3

School Message

As I write this letter other Headteachers from the area will be completing their journey to London to form part of the protest about poor funding for schools. Due to meeting commitments I have not been able to join them but over the last two years I have campaigned and continue to campaign against the cuts to funding to schools. This campaign is not about pay but about how much we have to spend on your children. On Wednesday I will speak at the Meeting being held at Norton Hill about how these cuts are impacting our school – cancelled trips because we do not have enough money to pay for visits if parents do not pay their voluntary contribution, no funds to replace broken interactive white boards and projectors or keep up with the ever changing IT world and the constant juggle of staffing under-funded special needs provision are but a few things I will be talking about. Please come and add your voice to this campaign – we are fighting for the children of today – your children; to have what they deserve, a well-resourced school with the staff needed to support them.

The good news this week is that Sharon missed us all so much she is returning to St Nicks on Monday. She returns in a very different role. She will be available for parents to drop in for a coffee and a chat on Monday afternoons and will carry a case load. She will not be available without an appointment and families will be allocated to Sharon's caseload based on need. The rest of her duties will focus on attendance and office work as Krys is leaving us to relocate to London. I hope you all have a lovely weekend.

Best Wishes
Nicki Smith

Chair of governors

Dear parents,

I hope you all had a great summer break. On behalf of the governors I would like to welcome you all back, whether returning for another year or coming to our school for the first time.

I also wanted to share an important update in terms of the discussions we have been having about whether or not to join an Academy. Last year we had extensive discussions with 3 Multi Academy Trusts (MATs), the Diocese and the Local Education Authority. Those discussions were very constructive and allowed the governing board to understand the qualities that each MAT offers and to assess how those qualities fit with our own vision for the school both now and in the future.

After much consideration, the governing board voted to defer any decision to join a MAT at this stage. There are two main reasons for this: Firstly, there could be some additional MAT options available to our school that we would like to be able to consider, in addition to the 3 MATs we have been talking to. Secondly, we are very aware that the school is going through a major build and as a governing body, we want to be able to provide as much support and focus to the Headteacher and staff as we can. That is not to say that the school will not join an academy in the future, but for now we are comfortable that we can continue to exist and thrive outside of a MAT.

I will update you further as and when there are any developments in this area but hope the above will provide clarity as to the current position.

Kindest regards,

Andrew Smith
Chair of Governors

House Points

Foxcote	-	77
Tyning	-	49
Ludlow	-	89
Huish	-	51

Class Attendance

Frome	98.9%
Tone	98.2%
Somer	94.2%
Dart	98.8%
Brue	100%
Avon	95.9%
Mells	93.3%
Kennet	90.0%
Yeo	99.4%
Severn	99.2%

Save the Date

Wednesday 3rd October:

Yr 5+6 Cross country@Odd Down

Thursday 4th October:

-Harvest Celebration Assembly

KS1 - 9AM / KS2 - 2:15PM

- 2-4pm Year 4 Maths Challenge

@ King Edwards

Friday 5th October:

KS1 Celebration Assembly

+ Biathlon at Bath Uni Y5+Y6

Thursday 11th October:

Rags 2 Riches Collection

Friday 12th October:

KS2 Celebration Assembly

Tuesday 16th October:

3:30-6:10pm Parents Evening

(2:30pm Yeo)

Thursday 18th October:

3:30-7:00pm Parents Evening

Friday 19th October:

KS1 Celebration Assembly

Friday 26th October:

9am Spirit of St Nicholas

Assembly

+ Final Day of Term 1

School Funding Cuts Meeting

Parents' Meeting to highlight the impact of School Funding Cuts **Wednesday 3 October, 7pm-9pm Norton Hill School, BA3 4AD** Come and discuss school

funding cuts with: > Rob Kelsall - NAHT National Secretary > Andrew Baisley - National Education Union > Local headteachers This is a **FREE event, open to all parents** in MSN Partnership Trust Schools. To register your place, please email organising@naht.org.uk.

Outside School Achievements



Y5 - Ruby - Gymnastics

Y4 - Fabio - 2nd/3rd in Dragon Tang Soo Do

Frome - Florence - Learn to Swim Stage 1

A Time To Talk

In each class ask your child about:

Frome/Tone: What happened in the story of the "Three Billy Goat Gruff"?

Somer: How would you feel if you were in London at the time of the fire?

Dart/Brue: Can you say what chips, peas and plates represent in maths?

Avon: Can you chant your 3 and 4 times tables?

Mells/Kennet: Can you name all of our school values and explain what they mean?

Yeo: Can you remember who invaded Britain in the 5th century and where they came from?

Severn: What facts can you recall about one of the volcanoes you have researched?



Children's Allotments

Allotments for children are currently available at Haydon .

If you are interested please contact Radstock Town Council.

Lifeskills Bathalf 2019

Please help support Lifeskills "Learning For Living", by running the Bath Half Marathon on Sunday 17th March 2019.

The entry fee is £35 and the sponsorship target is £300

Please contact the Lifeskills office for more information or to show an interest on 01179224511 Or alternatively, contact Joanna@lifeskills-bristol.org.uk

Somer Food Bank Collection

Please help local people in crisis by donating items from the list below for the Somer Valley Foodbank Harvest Collection Thank you!

- Milk (UHT or powdered)
- * Tinned Corned Beef
- * Tinned Fish
- * Tinned Potatoes
- * Tinned Fruit
- * Tinned Tomatoes
- * Tinned Spaghetti
- * Tinned Macaroni Cheese
- * Tinned/Packet Meat Soup
- * Brown/Red Sauces
- * Sponge Pudding
- * Custard
- * Biscuits
- * Sweet/Savoury Snacks
- * Long Life Fruit Juice (carton)
- * Instant Coffee/Chocolate
- * Instant Mash
- * Noodles
- * Kitchen/Toilet Rolls
- * Cleaners (not bleach)
- * Toiletries (no aerosols)

Census Day Free School Meals

As you are aware all of the children in reception, year 1 and year 2 are entitled to a free school meal every day. What you won't be aware of is that **the school is not paid for all of these meals unless your child has a meal on census day!** The school is paid for meals based on the average number of children having school meals on these days – this means that if 50 children have a meal on census days but 100 children have meals on the other days we only receive the money for 50 of the children taking the meals each day! This has cost our school approximately £10,000 this year (more than a teaching assistant costs us.) Think how much equipment we could have bought with that money! The next census day is on **Thursday 4th October 2018**. On that day we will be booking every child a meal who is entitled to one and offer it to your child. If you are worried that your child will not eat the lunch please feel free to send a packed lunch as well. If they don't eat their lunch we will offer them the packed lunch – if they do they can take their lunch home for tea!

On census day the choice for dinner will be the option for Friday of Fish and Chips or (V) Falafel and Friday will be the option for Thursday of Chicken Korma or (V) Potato skins with tomato and cheese.

Class Awards

	Star of the week	Maths Magician	Wizard Writer
Avon	Joseph	Jennifer	Phoebe
Mells	Gracie	Vinnie	Peter
Kennet	Logan	Ella	Anya
Yeo	Lizzie	Morgan	Zara
Severn	Lexie	Jordan	Orry