

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been lovely to see the children returning to school after the half term break. My weekly highlight was spending time with the early years children on Thursday and joining some children from nursery in making and eating a pancake. It was lovely to see them enjoying the session so much. It showed me the quality of provision that is available for all of our children right from the very youngest age.

World Book Day



World Book Day Thursday 5th March 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

A reminder that **World Book Day** is taking place on **Thursday 5th March**. Children are very welcome to come to school dressed as a favourite book character if they would like to.

We are also delighted to be holding a **Stay and Read** session on World Book Day. Parents and carers are warmly invited to come into the classroom for the first half hour of the school day to share a book with their child. Please don't worry if you are unable to attend, we will be holding another Stay and Read in the future.

We will also be running a **book swap**. Children are invited to bring in a book they no longer want and swap it for another. Please don't worry if your child does not have a book to bring, we have a number of donated books available so that everyone can take part.

If you would like to donate any books for the swap, there will be a collection box in the reception area of each school in the lead-up to World Book Day.

We are looking forward to a lovely day celebrating reading together.



Sustainability

We were really proud to get a write-up on the Church of England website around our new heating at St Nic's and our commitment to sustainability. The link to the article is here:

[For the Good of All: How St Nicolas' Junior School Is Decarbonising the Next Generation | The Church of England](#)

Additionally, we are working hard in both schools on Food Waste. We have been weighing our bins and talking to the children about the importance of reducing food waste.

As part of this, we are asking all children that bring packed lunches to school, to put any waste material back in the lunchbox so that parents can see which items were not eaten and know what to pack in future.

Online Session with the head of West Berkshire Special Educational Needs

Attached with this update is a flyer providing information about a session to meet with Emma Ferrey, the new interim head of Special Educational Needs for West Berkshire.

Scooter Safety

We have received an email from Fair Close House, which is next to St Nicolas School talking about the dangers that some of our children are posing to residents of Fair Close House. A small number of children have been seen using their scooters on the passage that goes through Fair Close House. Could you please remind your children that this is a private section of driveway and that they should not be using it. Additionally, the users of Fair Close are elderly and often have disabilities and can get quite worried by children scootering near them.

International Evening – Save the Date

We are really pleased to announce that our International Evening, which I think everyone who has attended in the past will agree was outstanding, will return this year. The International Evening will take place on the evening of Friday 1st May and will take place at St Nic's School, although it is aimed at families from both schools. Further details to follow.

Attendance

Congratulations to Oak Class at St John's with 97.5% attendance and 3N at St Nic's with 97.9% attendance. Both classes have won our attendance aardvarks for this week.

Attendance at each school last week was as follows:

- St John's: 94.9%
- St Nic's 94.3%

The attendance at both schools was low last week and this is often the case across holidays. Every day in school is important and we are keen to boost our attendance. Across the two schools, there were 36 children late last week, which is an improvement on the previous week. Please ensure your child is in school, on time, each day.

Writer of the Week

Well done to Evyavan in Year 3, who was this week's writer of the week. The inspiration for next week is below:



Year 2 Homework

Maths

This has been our final week of looking at multiplication and division. Below are some questions that you could do with your child to see if they can apply what they have learned:

James and Amy have the coins below. Amy has more money than James. True or false? Explain why. _____ _____ _____ © grammarbase.co.uk	Write <, > or = to complete the comparisons below. Use counters to help you. 5×6 10×4 3×10 4×5 8×5 4×10 10×6 10×5 © grammarbase.co.uk	James and Amy each have some money. James has 12 5p coins. Amy has 6 10p coins. Amy has less money than James. True or false? Explain why. _____ _____ _____ © grammarbase.co.uk	Write <, > or = to complete the comparisons below. 5×6 10×4 3×10 4×5 8×5 4×10 10×6 10×5 4×10 5×12 12×5 6×10 © grammarbase.co.uk
Abdul and Shen have the same number of sweets. Abdul has 5 groups of 10 sweets. Shen puts his sweets into groups of 5. How many groups of sweets does Shen have? Show your working out. _____ _____ Shen has _____ groups of sweets. © grammarbase.co.uk	Inaya has 40cm of string. Inaya I can cut the string into 4 lengths of 10cm or 6 lengths of 5cm. Is Inaya correct? Explain why. _____ _____ © grammarbase.co.uk	Abdul and Shen have the same number of sweets. Abdul has 4 groups of 10 sweets. Shen puts his sweets into groups of 5. How many groups of sweets does Shen have? Complete the calculation below to show your working out. _____ $\times$ _____ = _____ $\times$ _____ Shen has _____ groups of sweets. © grammarbase.co.uk	Inaya has 30cm of string. Inaya I can cut the string into lengths of 10cm or lengths of 5cm. Do you agree with Inaya? Explain why. _____ _____ How many lengths of 5cm or 10cm string could Inaya make? _____ _____ © grammarbase.co.uk

Spellings

Term 4	New Skills	CEWs Year 2	Special Skill
Week 1	Adverbs ending in -ly (including to split digraph and -y words)	plant*, bath*, path*	Apostrophes for possession

Tell the children that when you add the -ly suffix to an adjective (remember, that's a describing word) it tells you how an action is done. For example: Sam walked slowly. The -ly suffix tells us how Sam

walks. Slowly. When we add the -ly suffix to an adjective ending in 'le' with a consonant before the word ending, we simply drop the 'e' and add 'y'. Let's look at some examples:
eg..gladly badly safely really quickly bravely

Remind the children about apostrophes to show possession (including when there is more than one possessive subject). Model: Oliver's coat The cat's whiskers Kasim's dad's new car.

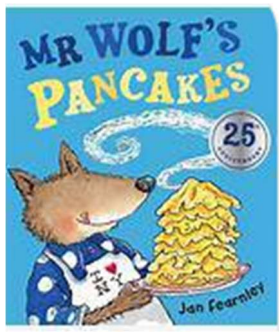
Drawing Club

Drawing Club is a way of igniting joy and a love of stories with the early years and follows Greg Bottrell's beliefs and passions. Your child will be using their imagination to create new characters, settings, and events for this story. They will be adding marks, codes, labels, and messages to their work and realising that they are writers! Each week we will choose a different story or an animation, this week our story is Mr Wolf's Pancakes

They will also be learning some exciting new vocabulary with actions. This week's vocabulary list is:

Mocking
Cunning
Starving
Guzzle
Delicious
Acquaintance
Selfish
Heartbroken

See if they can teach you the actions!



Phonics Books for the Week

Reception:

[https://parents.fft.org.uk/viewer/?pdf=S16 Toad in the Rain&d=Toad%20in%20the%20Rain](https://parents.fft.org.uk/viewer/?pdf=S16%20Toad%20in%20the%20Rain&d=Toad%20in%20the%20Rain)
<https://vimeo.com/692003417/9d764b920c>

Year 1:

[https://parents.fft.org.uk/viewer/?pdf=S51 Pets&d=Pets](https://parents.fft.org.uk/viewer/?pdf=S51%20Pets&d=Pets)
<https://vimeo.com/731372444/c7af4dc646>

Year 2:

[https://parents.fft.org.uk/viewer/?pdf=The Dreams of Moxie Mouse and Cat Capone&d=Fox%20and%20Hen](https://parents.fft.org.uk/viewer/?pdf=The%20Dreams%20of%20Moxie%20Mouse%20and%20Cat%20Capone&d=Fox%20and%20Hen)

Upcoming Dates

Thursday 5th March:

World Book Day

Thursday 5th March:

No Celebration Worship

Yours sincerely,

Keith Harvey

Executive Headteacher