

Friday 28th November 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

This week, we completed Count Your Carbon surveys for both schools, which we shared with an adviser who is working with us. The data for this will enable us to put together a climate action plan, which we will be sharing with you over the next few weeks. We are very excited to be looking at ways to reduce our carbon across the two schools and are looking forward to involving the children in this.

Parking at St Nic's

Following last week's parent update where we talked about the importance of not parking on double yellow lines near the school for the safety of children, I was very concerned this week by a photograph that was shared with me of a parent's car that had been left outside St Nic's School on Thursday morning. The car was clearly parked on a double yellow line, the engine had been left on and the parent was not in the car – I believe that they had gone onto the premises with their child. If this was you, please ensure that you park more considerately in future. Our children's safety is at stake.

Christmas Events

We have a lot of events taking place over the next few weeks and I think it is important to compile these together so that everyone knows what is taking place and when:

- Wednesday 3rd December 9.30am: Reception and Nursery Nativity
- Wednesday 3rd December afternoon: Year 6 COINS visit at St Nicolas Church
- Thursday 4th December 9.30am: Reception and Nursery Nativity
- Friday 5th December 5-7pm: FOSJSN Christmas Fair (held at St John's School)
- Tuesday 9th December 2pm: Year 1 Nativity
- Tuesday 9th December 5.30pm: Year 4 Play
- Wednesday 10th December 5.30pm: Year 4 Play
- Wednesday 10th December 6pm: Year 1 Nativity
- Thursday 11th December: Christmas lunch at both schools – children may wear Christmas jumpers on that day
- Monday 15th December: Christmas disco at St Nic's 6-7pm for Years 3 and 4 and 7.15-8.30pm for Years 5 and 6
- Wednesday 17th December: St John's Christmas Service 9am at St John's Church
- Wednesday 17th December: St Nic's Christmas Service 2pm at St Nic's Church
- Wednesday 17th December: Both schools' choirs singing at Newbury Library for the Living Advent Calendar
- Thursday 18th December: Last day of school; St John's finishes at 1.30pm and St Nic's at 1.45pm.

Celebration Worship Change of Time

Next week's Celebration worship will be at the later time of 11.10am due to the nativity.

Doodle Maths – Years 4, 5 and 6

The Winter Calendar will soon be arriving in Doodle, a seasonal event where your child can earn festive in-app rewards by Doodling 'little and often'! Between the **1st-24th of December**, your child can open the calendar doors by **completing at least one exercise a day** in Doodle Maths. They'll find **festive goodies** hiding behind each one – and if they open them all, they'll receive a **virtual Winter Calendar badge**!

Writer of the Week

Congratulations to Yalini in Year 4, who is this week's writer of the week. Next week's stimulus is below:



I had never
seen an
alien. But I
guess there's
a first time
for
everything.

Year 2 Homework

Help your child in maths this week by encouraging them to subtract in multiples from a given number.

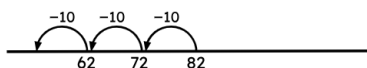
Get them use to counting back in 10s from a given number.

Eg 78,68,58,48,38 they should start to understand that the tens go down while the ones stay the same.

Move onto subtracting in multiples of tens using this knowledge e.g. $45-30=$ This will then help them work out more complex subtractions

Sam solves this equation on a number line.

$$82 - 30$$



I know 30 is 3 tens,
so I can count back
3 tens.



a) $97 - 20 = \square$

$$87 - 20 = \square$$

$$77 - 20 = \square$$

b) $63 - 10 = \square$

$$63 - 20 = \square$$

$$63 - 30 = \square$$

c) $\square = 65 - 40$

$$\square = 75 - 40$$

$$\square = 85 - 40$$

d) $67 - 20 = \square$

$$67 - 30 = \square$$

$$\square = 67 - 40$$

Please remember to hear your child read each week and sign their reading records.

Spelling this week has looked at the Suffix -ful (and reviewing words with / or / ore / au / aw/)

thank + ful
spite + ful
power + ful
delight + ful
art + ful
truth + ful

Remind your child about homophones (words that sound the same but are spelt differently). Model:
there their

Phonics Books for this Week

Reception: <https://parents.fft.org.uk/S08> Mud on the Van
<https://vimeo.com/692001955/6ca7bedd12>

Year 1: <https://parents.fft.org.uk/S43> Just the One Moon
<https://vimeo.com/731076243/0476647d00>

Year 2: <https://parents.fft.org.uk/YR2> Ants Are Everywhere

Upcoming Dates

Tuesday 2 nd December:	Parents Evenings in both schools – Years 1-6
Wednesday 3 rd December:	Reception and Nursery nativity 9.30am
Wednesday 3 rd December:	Year 6 at COINS at St Nicolas Church
Thursday 4 th December:	Year 6 Victorian Toy Sessions
Thursday 4 th December:	Reception and Nursery nativity 9.30am
Thursday 4 th December:	Celebration worship at 11.10am
Thursday 4 th December:	Parents' Evenings for Years 1 to 6
Friday 5 th December:	FOSJSN Christmas Fair 5-7pm

Yours sincerely,

Keith Harvey
Executive Headteacher