

Thursday 23rd October 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

The children (and staff) very much deserve their break next week and I hope that everyone is able to enjoy some special time together. We look forward to seeing the children back in school on Monday 3rd November.

Behaviour Policy

This week, the governing board approved the new behaviour policy for our schools. I have been putting this together for some time, thinking very carefully about balancing the importance of high expectations and firm consistency with understanding different children's needs and ensuring fairness for all.

We want all children to thrive in school and they should be able to do so in an environment that is calm, enjoyable and safe. We acknowledge and reward good behaviour in school and provide clear and consistent consequences, where behaviour choices are less good. Where children find good behaviour more difficult, we put in strategies to support them, but maintain high expectations.

The behaviour policy is attached with this update and I hope provides a clear way forward, which is understandable to all partners of our schools. In particular, I want to draw parents' attention to the consequences section, which is Appendix 1 in the policy.

We often have parents, who are uncertain when the school may contact them, with regards to a child's behaviour. The new policy states that this will be the case if a child needs a more serious consequence, where myself or one of the senior leadership team becomes involved either because they have surpassed all classroom or playground consequences in a day, have received minor consequences on several different occasions or have carried out a more serious behaviour. This means that when the school contacts you due to your child's behaviour, it is for a serious reason, where we have significant concerns.

Within each school, there are a small number of children with behaviour 'passports' which provide clear information about the difficulties that an individual child faces and how to manage this behaviour in the best way. In all cases within these passports, there are clear steps that staff will follow and where necessary, senior staff will be involved and will follow the more serious consequences sections.

We will be introducing the key points from the policy to children in both schools after the half term break, to ensure that they understand our expectations.

Harvest Festival

I am really pleased to be able to let you know that across our two schools we collected 159kg of food, which is enough for 335 meals and is the same weight as an adult giant panda! Thank you so much to everyone that donated to the West Berkshire Foodbank.

Bag2School Collection

The Friends of St John's and St Nic's will be holding a Bag2School collection on Tuesday 4th November from St John's School. If you are sorting through unwanted clothes, shoes, bags etc over the half term holiday, please bag them up and drop them at St John's on either Monday 3rd November or before 9am on Tuesday 4th November to help raise funds for both schools. Further details including what items they will collect can be found at <https://www.bag2school.com/> or by contacting fosisnschools@gmail.com

Vacancies

We have vacancies in both schools for Lunchtime Controllers. If you might be interested in joining our staff team, please contact either school office or find further details on our website: <https://st-john-and-st-nicolas-schools-federation.secure-primariesite.net/vacancies/>

Halloween Doodle Class

There's a Halloween Doodle Class being held at City Arts in Newbury by Tim Furr on October 28th from 3.30pm until 5pm. You'll be drawing things like ghosts, pumpkins, zombies, witches and wizards and colouring them in. It's £15 per child and one parent can join in free or just sit and have a coffee. Head on over here <https://cityartsnewbury.org/2025/05/28/halloween-doodles/> for more information and to book.

Writer of the Week

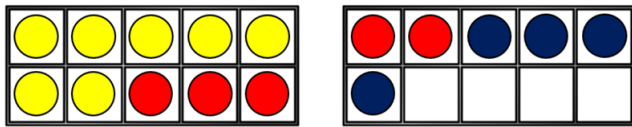
Congratulations to Aadita, who is this week's writer of the week. Next week's stimulus is below:



Year 2 Marvellous Maths

This week in maths we have been adding using new methods
You can add three numbers by making ten first-

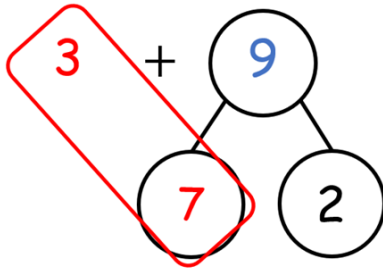
$$7 + 5 + 4 = 16$$



Becomes $10 + 6 = 16$

2. To find the answer to $7 + 9 + 3 =$ look for number bonds and rearrange the number sentence-We know that $7 + 3$ is 10 so - $9 + 7 + 3 = 10 + 9$

3. Look at the number sentence $3 + 9 =$
You can find out what $3 + 9 =$ by partitioning the 9. What does 3 need to make 10?

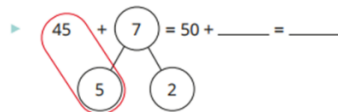


4. If you know that $4 + 6 = 10$ then: $14 + 6 = 20$; $24 + 6 = 30$ etc.

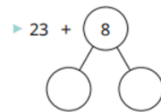
You might like to try these questions over half term:

Use bonds to 10 to complete the additions.

The first one has been started for you.



▶ $17 + 9$



▶ $57 + 6$

• Work out the missing numbers.

▶ $24 + \underline{\quad} = 30$

▶ $47 + \underline{\quad} = 50$

▶ $40 = 31 + \underline{\quad}$

▶ $\underline{\quad} + 12 = 20$

▶ $70 = \underline{\quad} + 65$

▶ $\underline{\quad} + 83 = 90$

In year 2 the red spelling words we have been practising this week are: -

most, only, clothes, both, hello

Can you remember how to spell these? Try saying the letter names out loud to help you.

Phonics Books for this Week

Reception: https://parents.fft.org.uk/S04_Pip_Can_Kick
<https://vimeo.com/692001365/b95212fa00>

Year 1: https://parents.fft.org.uk/S39_Hunt_the_Specs
<https://vimeo.com/781539610/aa0c90af77>

Upcoming Dates

24th Oct to 2nd November:
Monday 3rd November:

Half term break
Start of Autumn Term 2

Tuesday 4th November:

Thursday 6th November:

Thursday 6th November:

WB 10th November:

Athlete visit at St Nic's

Year 3 Museum Workshop

10.10am Celebration worship

Year 6 Mock SATs week

Yours sincerely,

Keith Harvey

Executive Headteacher