

Friday 19th June 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

This week has had two significant highlights for me. Firstly, I was fortunate to attend the Year 6 residential trip to Osmington Bay from Sunday to Wednesday. Our Year 6 children were an absolute credit to the school, showing willingness to participate, independence and organisation and excellent behaviour throughout. I always enjoy a residential visit and this was no exception.

My second highlight was the Year 1 and 2 sports day today. Thank you so much to all of the parents that came along to make it such a successful event. The children clearly really enjoyed themselves and it was great to see everyone participating so well.

Classes for Next Year

Early next week, we will send out information about which children will be in which class, in the year groups that have been mixed. In the meantime, I can let you know which teachers will be in different year groups and for the year groups that are not being mixed, who they will be with:

- The current Rose class will become Oak class next year and will be taught by Miss Stock
- The current Daisy class will become Cherry class next year and will be taught by Miss Wardrop and Mrs Howell
- The current Oak class will become Beech class next year and will be taught by Mrs Rogers and Mrs Jones
- The current Cherry class will become Poplar class next year and will be taught by Mrs Head
- The Year 3 teachers for next year will be Mrs Gibbons (3N) and Mrs Auckland (3S)
- The current 3N will become 4N next year and will be taught by Mrs Langdon
- The current 3S will become 4S next year and will be taught by Mrs Davies and Mrs Herdman
- The Year 5 teachers next year will be Mrs Arlow and Mrs Hill (5N) and Mrs Littlechild and Mrs Allen (5S)
- The Year 6 teachers next year will be Mrs Gillman (6N) and Miss Sheppard (6S).

For parents of children in Years 2, 4 and 5, you should receive an email in the first couple of days of next week to confirm your child's new class and teacher.

Summer Fair

We are really looking forward to seeing as many families as possible at our Friends of St John's and St Nic's Summer Fair next Saturday 27th June from 2 to 5pm on the St Nicolas playground. It should be a lovely event and it is always made better by having lots of people there. The fair is football themed and should be a good build up to the England match that evening.

Hot Weather

The next few days look to be very hot. Please ensure that your child comes to school with sun cream applied, that they have a hat with them to wear outside and plenty of water to drink.

Drinks Bottles

We have noticed, particularly at St Nicolas School, that a number of children are not bringing water bottles to school and are asking to use school cups to get a drink. This is not a good option, as it can be difficult to ensure that cups are washed and hygienic for children to use. There is an expectation on all children to bring a water bottle with them to school. This doesn't have to be an expensive one – it could simply be a reused plastic bottle.

Sustainability Week

Next week is sustainability week and throughout the week we will be looking at ways that children can help the environment and can support reducing climate change. This will include a 'no lights day' on Tuesday, where we will be looking at ways that we can save electricity.

Sustainability has been a big theme for us this year and our climate action plan is available on our school website. We are particularly excited at St Nicolas School, where we are looking forward to having solar panels and LED lighting fitted during the summer break, which when added to our air source heat pump heating system, should mean that St Nic's becomes a carbon neutral or even negative school.

Sports Days

Please note the bold writing for the St Nic's sports day:

St Nicolas: The St Nic's Sports day will take place on Tuesday 23rd June at St Nicolas School, starting at 9.30am. We would anticipate that the event will finish at around 12pm. Parents are welcome to attend and support – we would ask parents to bring a chair with them to sit on to spectate.

The sports day will be a competitive event, with children representing their coloured houses. There will be a number of different races and points will be awarded based on children's positions in each race, with the winning team being awarded the sports day trophy at the end.

Children should wear their P.E. kits on the day and, if possible, should wear a T-shirt that is the colour of their house – red, green, yellow or blue to help people to identify them. If this is not possible, a white T-shirt will be fine. Children must wear sun cream on the day and bring a water bottle with them.

Friends of St John's and St Nic's will be providing cold drinks during the morning which will be available to purchase.

Please note that currently the weather forecast is suggesting a very hot morning next Tuesday. If this remains the case, we may look to shorten sports day. Mrs Allen and I will be discussing this and we will let you know on Monday what has been decided.

If you have a gazebo, which we could use for shade on the playground, please let us know. Parents with gazebos are welcome to come onto the school playground from 7.30am on the day to set them up.

Reception and Nursery: Our Reception and Nursery sports morning will take place at St John's School on Friday 3rd July starting at 9.30am. Parents are welcome to attend and support their child. Please wait just outside the black gates once you have dropped your child at school, and we will let parents back through to the playground at around 9.20am, once the children are ready.

The children will be split into groups and will rotate around a carousel of activities. The event should last around an hour. Children should arrive in their P.E. kits on that day and should be wearing sun cream. All children will need a hat and a water bottle.

Thank you

A huge thank you to Mr Gammell, who has been volunteering to tidy our grounds, at St John's. It is very much appreciated and the school is looking great!

Stress and Anxiety Workshop for Parents and Carers

Dear Parents & Carers,

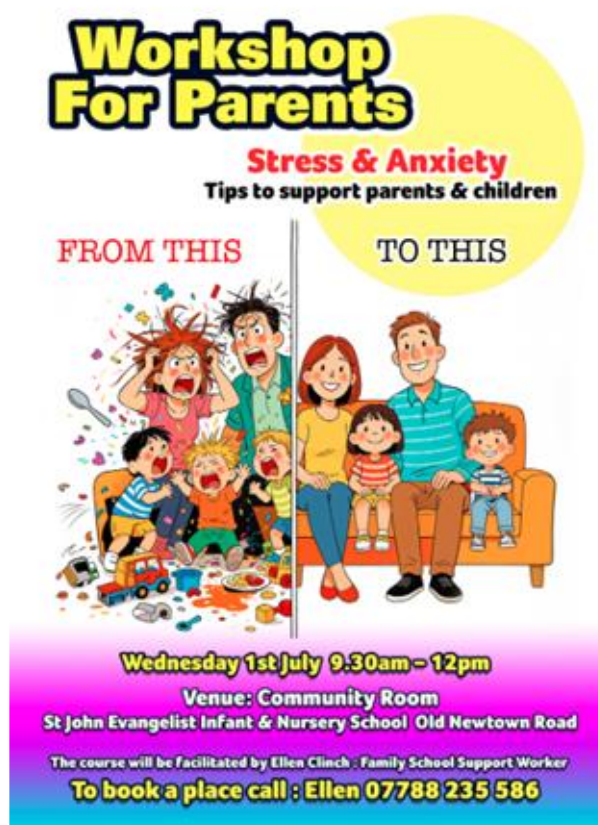
We are pleased to invite you to a free workshop for parents focusing on stress and anxiety in children and young people.

The session will explore:

- The difference between stress and anxiety
 - Why we experience these feelings
- Common thinking patterns that can increase anxiety
 - Anxiety disorders
- Practical strategies to support your child

The workshop will be facilitated by Ellen Clinch your Family School Support Worker, and will provide an opportunity to learn helpful techniques and ask questions in a supportive environment.

Booking is essential as places are limited.



Attendance

Congratulations to Cherry Class at St John's with 98.2% attendance and 4S at St Nic's with 98.1% attendance. Both classes have won our attendance aardvarks for this week.

Attendance at each school last week was as follows:

- St John's: 94.2%
- St Nic's: 97.6%

There were 34 children late across the two schools last week. This is equivalent to nearly 7 children each day. Please ensure that your child arrives in time for the beginning of the school day. For St Nic's this is 9am and for St John's it is 8.45am. Children that are late can often struggle to settle in school and this can cause problems for them, as they get older. Children should be in school, on time, every day.

Reading Award

Congratulations to Prisha in Year 4, who has achieved her gold reading award for 500 reads!

Phonics Books for the Week

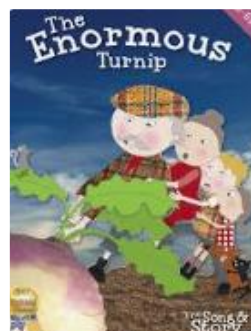
Reception: https://parents.fft.org.uk/viewer/?pdf=S29_Jim-s_Gift_to_the_Garden&d=Jim%E2%80%99s%20Gift%20to%20the%20Garden
<https://vimeo.com/692012942/deb59f0d2f>

Year 1: https://parents.fft.org.uk/viewer/?pdf=S65_Sports_Day&d=Sports%20Day
<https://vimeo.com/731076673/cb400f11d7>

Year 2: https://parents.fft.org.uk/viewer/?pdf=In_The_Year_2100&d=In%20the%20Year%202100

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 The Enormous Turnip.



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

Resistance; Struggle; Famished; Emerging; Forceful; Beckon; Colossal; Victorious

See if they can teach you the actions!

Year 2 Homework

Maths

In maths this week we continue to look at pictograms. The children have learnt about the key features of a pictogram and how to interpret a key. Each symbol in the pictogram now may represent more than one item. In this the children draw pictograms where the symbols represent 2, 5 or 10 items and should have a secure understanding of how to draw pictograms and what the key represents. They also need to be confident counting in 2s, 5s and 10s.

- Complete the pictograms for the flowers in the garden.



Key  = 1 flower

Flower	Flowers in garden
 tulip	     
 crocus	
 daffodil	

Key  = 2 flowers

Flower	Flowers in garden
 tulip	  
 crocus	
 daffodil	

Use the tally chart to complete the pictogram showing the number of books read in each class.

Key  = 5 books

Class	Books read
Class 1	
Class 2	
Class 3	
Class 4	

Class	Books read
Class 1	  
Class 2	
Class 3	
Class 4	

Use the table to complete the pictogram.

Key  = 10 points

Child	Points
Jo	15
Ron	30
Ann	35
Kay	25

Child	Points
Jo	 
Ron	
Ann	
Kay	

The table shows the different types of cake sold in a week.

Draw a pictogram to show the data.

Cake	chocolate	lemon	fruit	carrot	banana
Total	65	35	20	25	15

Upcoming Dates

WB 22nd June:

Monday 22nd June:

Tuesday 23rd June:

Wednesday 24th June:

Thursday 25th June:

Sustainability Week

New Reception Parent Meeting 6pm

St Nic's Sports Day

Year 1 trip to Newbury Showground

Celebration Worship

Friday 26th June:

Saturday 27th June:

Friday 3rd July:

Monday 6th July:

Hand Me Down Day

Friends of St John and St Nicolas Schools Fair 2-5pm at St Nic's

Reception and Nursery Sports Morning

Change Over Day

Yours sincerely,

Keith Harvey

Executive Headteacher