

Friday 5th June 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been lovely to be back this week and the children have been in good spirits across the school. I particularly enjoyed being involved with the Pentecost service, yesterday. It is unusual for us to be able to spend time together as two schools (unfortunately, without our early years' children). The children showed huge enthusiasm about being together and the singing in the service was very enthusiastic.

Friends of St John's and St Nic's Summer Fair

The Friends of St John's and St Nic's Summer Fair will be taking place on Saturday 27th June from 2-5pm on St Nicolas School playground. Parents and families from both schools are welcome to attend what is always a lovely event.

This year, the event has a football theme, as it will be taking place during the world cup.

On Friday 19th June, children can come to school wearing non-school uniform – football kits encouraged. On that day, please bring donations of items to be sold at the fair.

If you have a gazebo and are able to set it up before the fair and collect after, we would be really grateful, as it can be difficult to get shade on the playground.

Parking at St Nicolas School

When I was walking past the front of the school at 3.30pm yesterday, I saw 5 cars parked on double yellow lines outside St Nicolas School. This is obviously extremely dangerous for our children, when they are crossing the road. There is plenty of parking available within a 5-minute walk of the school. Please do not park on the double yellow lines.

Celebration Worship

Next week's celebration worship will take place during the afternoon, at 1.15pm, due to the swimming gala in the morning.

St Nicolas School Share and Celebrate

During the week beginning 8th June, we will be holding a share and celebrate for children at St Nic's. Parents are welcome to come into school at the following times:

Monday 8 th June:	Year 6 parents 9-9.25am
Tuesday 9 th June:	Year 3 parents 9-9.25am
Wednesday 10 th June:	Year 4 parents 9-9.25am

Thursday 11th June: Year 5 parents 9-9.25am

There will be an additional session from 6-6.30pm on Monday 8th June for any parent that is unable to make the morning times, but would still like to attend.

Year 1 and 2 Share and Celebrate

St John's Share and Celebrate for Year 1 and 2 classes will be taking place on the week beginning 15th June as follows:

- Monday 15th June 8.45am: Parents are invited into school to share work with their children from 8.45am until 9.15am. Ms King and other staff will look after other children on the playground during this time. If you are not staying for share and celebrate at this time, please drop your child to the top playground.
- Monday 15th June 3.30pm: This is another opportunity to share your child's work with your child, if you were unable to make the morning session.
- Monday 15th June 6pm: If you are unable to make the other two sessions, you are welcome to come into school with your child at 6pm on Monday 15th June to share their books with them.
- Reception and Nursery children should come into school as normal

Sports Days

Our annual sports days will be taking place during late June and early July and will take place as follows:

Year 1 and 2: This will take place on the playground at St Nicolas School on Friday 19th June. Year 1 and 2 children should be dropped at the back gate of St Nicolas School at 9am (we will let the children in just after the St Nic's children have gone in for the day). The event will start at approximately 9.30am and will take between 1 and 1.5 hours.

The event will be a carousel of different sporting activities for the children to enjoy. Parents are welcome to attend and support their child. Please ensure your child comes in either their P.E. kit on the day, or, as it's also a non-uniform day, clothes suitable for sports activities, and wearing sun cream. They should bring a hat and water bottle. After the event, the children will be walked back to school and we would be grateful for any volunteers that can help with walking back.

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 should 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 to purchase.

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.

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.

St Nicolas Sports Day Programme Competition

How good are your design skills?

Please design a front cover for our Sports Day Programme 2026. The winner will be chosen by the House Captains

The winning design will be used for the official 2026 Sports Day Programme.

Rules:

- One entry per child on A5 paper in colour or black and white
- Designs should be sports day related – cups, podium, medals, races, sports, house colours etc.
- Entries should include the following heading St Nicolas Junior School Sports Day 2026
- All designs should be handed to your teacher by morning registration on Monday 15th June (Friday 12th June for Year 6)

Stress and Anxiety Workshop for Parents and Carers

Dear Parents and 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.

Please see the poster for further details.

Booking is essential as places are limited.



Sponsored Reading Challenge

Don't forget that it's the Sponsored Reading Challenge next week. Parents should have already received information about this - the class with the most participation will win a non-uniform day.

SEND Coffee Morning



Dear Parents and carers,

Join us for our upcoming SEND Coffee Morning, where we'll be sharing information about what's available for families during the school holidays.

Come along to find out about SEND-friendly events, family support sessions, holiday activities, and community opportunities taking place locally. It's also a great chance to meet other parents and carers, share experiences, and connect with professionals from a range of services who support children and young people with additional needs.

Date: Thursday 18th June

Time: 9:00am – 10:30am

Venue: Community Room, St John Evangelist Infant & Nursery School

Whether you're looking for activities to enjoy over the holidays, support for your family, or simply an opportunity to chat with others in a relaxed setting, we'd love to see you there.

Water Safety

Following the tragic news over the half term break regarding open water incidents, Royal Berkshire Fire and Rescue Service have put together some advice for parents. We have attached the letter with this update.

Highclere Village Church Fete

A flyer is attached for the Highclere Village Church Fete, which will be held on Mrs Wrigley's grounds. Children will be familiar with Mrs Wrigley's grounds from their visits there in Reception Year.

Attendance

Congratulations to Poplar Class at St John's with 97.9% attendance and 3S at St Nic's with 97.7% attendance. Both classes have won our attendance aardvarks for this week.

Attendance at each school last week was as follows:

- St John's: 88.3%
- St Nic's 94.9%

Attendance for both schools was low last week and particularly low at St John's. This often seems to be the case before or after holiday periods and is concerning. Every day of attendance at school is important and we ask all parents to ensure that their child is in school every day.

Phonics Books for the Week

Reception: [https://parents.fft.org.uk/viewer/?pdf=S27 It-
s Fun at the Fair&d=It%E2%80%99s%20Fun%20at%20the%20Fair](https://parents.fft.org.uk/viewer/?pdf=S27%20It-s%20Fun%20at%20the%20Fair&d=It%E2%80%99s%20Fun%20at%20the%20Fair)
<https://vimeo.com/692012901/d5085f948c>

Year 1:

[https://parents.fft.org.uk/viewer/?pdf=S63 Rights of the Child&d=Rights%20of%20the%20Child](https://parents.fft.org.uk/viewer/?pdf=S63%20Rights%20of%20the%20Child&d=Rights%20of%20the%20Child)
<https://vimeo.com/731076634/d35391f163>

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 Leaf.



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

Beast; Tramping; Domain; Cavity; Precipice; Wafted; Arctic; Companionless

See if they can teach you the actions!

Upcoming Dates

WB 8 th June:	St Nic's Share and Celebrate
WB 8 th June:	Sponsored Reading Challenge Week
Monday 8 th June:	Year 6 Bikeability
Tuesday 9 th June:	Year 6 Bikeability
Thursday 11 th June:	Swimming gala
Thursday 11 th June:	Celebration worship 1.15pm
Sunday 14 th June:	Year 6 leave for Osmington Bay
WB 15 th June:	Key Stage 1 Share and Celebrate
Wednesday 17 th June:	Year 6 return from Osmington Bay
Friday 19 th June:	Year 1 and 2 Sports Day
Tuesday 23 rd June:	St Nic's Sports Day
Friday 3 rd July:	Reception and Nursery Sports Day
Monday 6 th July:	Change Over Day
Tuesday 7 th July:	St John's Parents' Evening
Wednesday 8 th July:	St Nic's Parents' Evening
Thursday 9 th July:	Parents' Evenings at both schools

Yours sincerely,

Keith Harvey
Executive Headteacher