

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Class: \_\_\_\_\_



# ST. NICHOLAS PRIORY NEWS

## March 2017

Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome to the Easter Newsletter!

I am delighted to have been appointed as the Headteacher of St Nicholas Priory from 1st April and look forward to working with children, parents, staff and members of the community. I really enjoy working at our school and am interested and eager to build good community links.



Over the course of the previous term we have run several parent forums including spelling, reading and maths to share information about the curriculum in order to help parents. Please let a member of staff know if you have any other suggestions of things which might be included in our programme. Just a reminder that we continue to have 'Drop in' every day at 8.40 in the dining hall which is an informal opportunity for parents to just come into school and have a tea, coffee and a chat.

Thank you for your continued support in ensuring your children come to school on time and in the correct uniform. Wishing you all a very Happy Easter!

Mrs Maria Grimmer  
Acting Head Teacher



### Future Newsletters

In an effort to save on rising printing costs, we will no longer be distributing hard copies of the newsletter en masse to the whole school. After this edition, the newsletter will be produced digitally only. If however, you wish to have a hard copy, please ask at the school office.



### Easter Service

Our Easter service will be held on Thursday 30th March at 11am. Parents/carers and other family members are welcome to attend; we look forward to seeing you there.



### Red Nose Day



A reminder that children are invited to wear red on their top half in return for a minimum donation of £1 to Comic Relief tomorrow. Red noses and face paints are allowed but no hair dye please. School uniform should be worn on their bottom half.

### Playground Gates

The playground gates are now being locked at 8.45am each morning. This is to ensure the safety of our children and staff. Please enter through the main reception on the Market Place if the gates are locked when you arrive in the morning. Just to remind you, school starts at 8.40am; children in Years 3, 4, 5 & 6 will receive a 'late' mark if they arrive after 8.50am. Children in Reception and Year 1 will receive a 'late' mark if they arrive after 9am. It is very important that your children arrive on time to ensure they do not miss out on important learning.



### News from Reception

Reception made flags and visited the Minster as part of the Commonwealth Day celebrations last week. They watched excitedly as Rev Jemma Sander-Heys raised the commonwealth flag high up above the Minster as they waved their own flags from below.

The children have been learning about road safety with Benjamin and Bethany Bear this week. They have also been learning about the Chinese New Year this term and the topic for next term will be 'Changes Over Time.'

The 'Gingerbread Man' and 'Three Billy Goats Gruff' are the stories children have been discussing as part of their 'Talk for Writing.' Next term's stories will be 'Jack and the Beanstalk' and 'Little Red Riding Hood.'



### News from Year 1

We have had a very green Spring Term! During the first half of the term, the children learnt lots about trees to answer the question 'Why are trees special?' We looked at what trees provide for us, which animals benefit from trees and how we can help reduce the number of trees we cut down. Our work went toward the 'Woodland Trust Green Tree School' award and (so far) we have qualified for a bronze award! A super effort from Year 1!



This half term, we have been growing! Our big question has been 'What will I become.' The children enjoyed having chicks hatch in the classroom and watching them peck, scrap and flutter around! We have also planted lots of flowers in class and hope to plant these outside after Easter to brighten the Year 1 outside area.



Next term Year 1 will be looking at Space!

### News from Year 4

Year 4 continue to study the Greeks and Romans this half term. On Wednesday this week, Year 4 classes performed their Greek and Roman Forum to decide 'Who is our favourite Ancient Hero and Why?' at St George's Theatre. The children were all very excited and enjoyed donning their costumes!

The contest was light hearted, X-factor style format with famous historical figures competing for the title of Favourite Ancient Hero. Our contestants included on the Roman side 'Pliny the Younger', 'Julius Caesar' and 'Emperor Augustus.' 'Cleisthenes,' the founder of democracy represented Ancient Greeks, and we had our own home grown hero, 'Boudicca' for the Celtic Iceni Tribe who was crowned the winner. The children did brilliantly and the battle enactment was enjoyed by all. The Roman honey cakes went down well!

The children will be visiting the Time and Tide Museum on 31st March and there will be an event at the Minster after school (more details to follow).

After Easter, the children will be learning about the history and geography of Great Yarmouth.



### News from Year 5

Classes have visited Great Yarmouth High School where the children have had chance to sample science, PE and cookery. There are plans to visit Trafalgar College after Easter and arrangements are being made to visit more high schools later on in the term.

Lynn Grove High School will be coming in to do a science roadshow with the children in May.

Jamie, Callum and Marc recently represented the school in a chess tournament at St George's Primary School.

James in 5A has recently completed a grading for his Kuk Sool Won. He is currently a brown belt and is now working towards his black belt.

The children have designed their perfect playgrounds using CAD software and will be making these into 3D models before the end of term. They have also written a persuasive letter to the council, trying to persuade them to use their designs in future playground planning in Great Yarmouth.

Next term is set to be action packed with many exciting activities planned.



Photos show 5R visiting Great Yarmouth High School where they enjoyed a science taster lesson. They watched an experiment using fire, made and launched rockets and looked at grains of salt underneath a microscope.

### News from Year 6

Year 6 are working very hard and getting ready for their national curriculum tests in May.

Next term the children will be learning about the human and physical features of the UK and compare to those of a South American country in geography. In science, they will be learning about 'living things and their habitats,' and 'Evolution and inheritance.' In literacy, they will be working on a newspaper article on a dinosaur sighting, writing about fossils and composing a 'lost world' story. This will be followed by making large models of mythical creatures and fossils in art and DT.



### **Help 4 Heroes School Disco**

Due to unforeseen circumstances, we have had to change the date of the school disco. It will now take place on **Wednesday 26th April** from 3.30 until 5pm for Years 3, 4, 5 & 6. If your child would like to attend, please complete and return the slip attached to this newsletter, together with the amount of £2.50 in a clearly named envelope. All profit will be donated to the charity 'Help 4 Heroes.'



### **ESOL courses (English Speakers of Other Languages)for parents/carers**

Great Yarmouth College run ESOL classes for adults each term. The classes are part time and flexible. The college are due to start new lessons in April and are now taking applications. If any parents/carers are interested, please apply online or go into the college.

### **Parent Forums**

We are pleased to say that the attendance at our Parent Forums are growing steadily. This year we have presented forums on various maths subjects, along with an e-safety meeting. The writing and reading forums were well attended. It is great to work together for the children in our care and we aim to bring you much more in the coming months.

Next up will be an e-safety evening on Thursday 27th April (time to be confirmed) which will enable parents and carers to attend if they were not able to come to the session previously held during the day.

During our 'Drop In' sessions in the morning (8:40-8:50 in the dining hall), we discussed other interesting ideas; a 'How to Create a New CV' session ( new date and time tbc) will be followed by an additional session on 'Basic Word Processing skills.' Watch out for the dates for an 'Introduction to Spreadsheets' and 'How to set up an email account,' where Ms Shephard will be going through email etiquette and other useful hints and tips.

We will be adding a short feedback form to find out if you found the forums valuable and what you would like us to offer in the future. Watch this space!



## Dates to remember

**Help4Heroes – ‘Who will eat the salted doughnut challenge’:** Monday 20th to Friday 24th March

**Red Nose Day:** Friday 24<sup>th</sup> March

**Easter Service** in the Minster at 11am: Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> March

**Easter holidays:** Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> April to Monday 17<sup>th</sup> April (pupils return Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> April)

**Help4Heroes Disco:** Wednesday 26th April 3.30 to 5pm

**Parent Forum ‘e-safety’:** Thursday 27th April (time tbc)

**Monday 1<sup>st</sup> May:** school closed due to bank holiday

**Y6 National Curriculum tests:** Monday 8<sup>th</sup> to Friday 12<sup>th</sup> May

**Help4Heroes ‘Beat the Goalie’ Challenge:** Monday 15<sup>th</sup> to Friday 19<sup>th</sup> May



**May Half term:** Monday 29<sup>th</sup> May to Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> June

**Upper School Camp Whitwell:** Monday 12<sup>th</sup> to Friday 16<sup>th</sup> June

**Summer Fair:** Thursday 22nd June

**New intake parents’ evening** for children starting in Reception September 2017: Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> June

**New intake parents’ evening** for children starting in Year 3 September 2017: Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> July

**Reports to parents:** Friday 7<sup>th</sup> July

**Parent Forum ‘How to Create a New CV’:** New date to be confirmed

**Summer holidays:** Monday 24<sup>th</sup> July to Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> September (pupils return Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> September)

### Help4Heroes Disco reply slip (please return to the school office in a clearly named envelope)

Name of child ..... in class .....

I give permission for my child to attend the H4H Disco on Wednesday 26th April and enclose £2.50

\*My child will be collected after the disco at 5pm by

..... (name of person collecting ) – or

\*I give permission for my child to make his/her own way home.

Signed.....(Signature of parent/carer)

Name of parent/carer.....

\*please delete as appropriate

