

St Nicholas Priory C.E.V.A. Primary School Christmas Newsletter



Our Vision Statement

We aim to welcome and celebrate the diversity of all God's children and provide a safe, caring space in which they can achieve their best academically, spiritually and pastorally whilst learning to serve others.

Dear Parents and Carers

As the Autumn term is coming to a close it is great to be able to look back and see how busy the governors, staff and children have been at St Nicholas Priory and how well our parents have supported school events.

We were delighted that several of our children were invited to the Minster to welcome the new Bishop of Norwich. Many of the congregation commented on how impressive the children were. This event was publicised online in Network East Norfolk which we have a link to on our website.

Our school choirs have also participated in the carol concert at the Minster and sung at the Christmas Fayre. The children were wonderful and really reminded us all of the true meaning of Christmas.



We do hope that parents will join us for the community welcome back service in the Minster at 2pm on the 14th January 2020

Our vision for the school is to support the local community and we are delighted to be supporting the 'Open Door' Christmas event at

the Minster this year and other events following the closure of some of our local nurseries.

Thank you to everyone for their contributions to fund raising this term. We raised £316.07 for Children in Need. Our Christmas Jumper Day is on Friday 13th December. We are asking for a voluntary contribution of £1....it is a firm favourite with the children and staff, so watch this space for more money raised.



Save the Children CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY



As part of our continued ongoing support for the community we have been working hard with our local nursery and school providers to hold a 'One Stop Shop' for parents in the Minster on the 8th January as an opportunity for everyone to come along and talk to local schools regarding places for September 2020 before the deadlines for application on the 15th January. We have invited the library, a book fayre and other useful information service providers. The event will run between 1pm and 5pm. Refreshments will be provided.

We have been delighted with the parent support for events that we have run this term and sincerely hope that you will join us in the programme for the Spring Term as you are all very welcome.

It is fantastic to see so many children now learning a range of different musical instruments. Thank you to parents for encouraging them to practice. We have a range of sports clubs on offer and a new addition this term of a Portuguese club. If anyone is interested in clubs then please see the front office.



We want the absolute best for children at St Nicholas Priory and are working hard to ensure that children come to school every day, have done their home learning and that we improve our reading results in line with improvements in maths. Please come and ask for any additional information you require as we recognise how important it is to work with you to ensure that our children achieve the best possible outcomes. We are continuing to send out key information that would help your child to learn as part of their project work (knowledge organisers)

We are sad to say that Mr Darron Midmore, Miss Jess Behan and Mrs Alison Little are all leaving this term and but wish them all the very best for the future and would like to say a huge thank you to them for all their contributions to Priory School.

We are also welcoming Miss Josie Tisdale and Mrs Jeanette Ward from January 2020.

Finally I would like to thank parents, governors children and teachers for their dedication and hard work this term and to wish everyone a very happy and safe Christmas holiday. See you on the 6th January 2020

Mrs Grimmer

Year 1 News

After half term Year 1 put on a Harvest Festival performance and exhibition for the parents. The children sang lots of songs and acted out a recreation of the book 'The Enormous Turnip'.

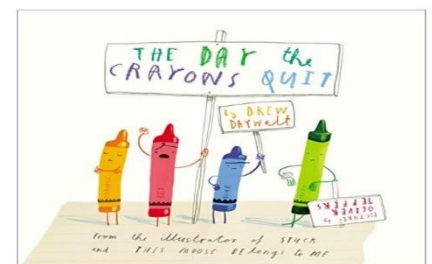


Parents then had the opportunity to look through their child's book and see all the progress they have been making.



Year 2 News

Year 2 have had a busy term. We have read the books Whatever Next, Into The Forest, The Day the Crayons Quit and The Day The Crayons Came Home. From this we have created some fantastic pieces of writing which the children are very proud of.



We found out who Picasso was and created some cubism portraits and made animal pictures out of leaves.

We held a teddy bear's picnic which was incredibly well attended, an open afternoon for parents to come and share a story and create some art with their children and a Christmas craft afternoon that was lots of glittery fun.



We are sending home elves in a bag to Y2 children to take home overnight. In the bag are some reading books, a reading journal and a Christmas Elf. The children read the stories to the elf then have to draw a picture and explain what their

favourite part of the story was. So far we have had some fantastic results. One elf made a bit of a mess in someone's house but they have done some brilliant reading.



We look forward to more fun afternoons next term.

Year 3

Year 3 have been loving getting into the festive spirit this half term! We were honoured to be invited to sing at the Minster during their Christmas Fayre, and the children sang so beautifully, they brought a tear to several

people's eye! Tynicha was especially brave and sang a solo verse - we were all so proud of her!



We have also enjoyed welcoming parents into Year 3 for some Christmas crafts - the children had a brilliant time and it was lovely to see so many of you. The Year 3 team would like to say a huge thank you to everyone who was able to attend, your support made the day a real success.



Year 4 News

This term, in year 4, we have been learning about the Romans and their invasion of Britain. We began with a Roman day at the Time and Tide museum, which was loved by all. There were brilliant activities including Roman army marching, a Celtic circle time and sword fighting!



Alongside this project the children are making gifts for residents at the Fisherman's hospital. As well as all this, the children have taken part in two science days about the solar system and about teeth, healthy eating and digestion.

Year 6 News

Year 6 children have started this year with fantastic attitudes. All children have settled into their reading and maths groups working hard throughout the mornings.

They are enjoying our new Big Cat Collins guided reading books and completing lots of reading as part of Accelerated Reader. Children can complete their Accelerated Reader quizzes and also work on their times tables on Times Table Rockstars, at home.

Children have enjoyed our new way of working in the afternoons, directing their own learning through a number of must do activities. This has mostly been building on knowledge about Victorians whilst also developing skills across Science, Art, DT, and Music.



We had a fantastic time at Gressenhall and experiencing a Victorian workhouse. We look forward to our spring term project, Our Changing World.



Children in year 6 made a Christmas Tree that's on display for the Minster Christmas Tree Festival. It is made entirely out of recycled materials. The children researched some facts about the wastage over Christmas period in the UK and put them on a board near the tree.

Safeguarding Audit - October 2019

Governing Bodies and Head teachers need to ensure that their responsibilities in accordance with the Education Act 2002 and 'Keeping Children Safe in Education' (2019) are met. A review of safeguarding arrangements in place at St Nicholas Priory was carried out by Norfolk County Council on 10 October 2019 at the request of Head teacher and the DSL. During the course of the audit, Mrs Grimmer, Mrs Hazell and Mr Ward were able to provide evidence to demonstrate how the School meets statutory requirements for safeguarding.

Eight pupils from across the school were spoken with by the Safeguarding Training Officer as part of the audit. The pupils were able to confidently talk about online safety and what they had been taught in school about not sharing their personal information online. One

pupil spoke specifically about Fortnite and how they had learnt about this within online safety.

Free Breakfast Club for All

We would like a reminder to parents that we offer a **free breakfast club** starting from 7:30am each morning. We offer cereal, toast and fresh fruit as well as a different hot option daily.



The gates are open at the bottom of the small playground until 8am; after this children need to enter through the front office but last admission is 8:15am.



Breakfast club is free to all with no need to book, for further information parents can contact Mrs Hazell.

Winter weather

As we are now officially in winter, please ensure your child has a suitable winter coat as we like the children to go outside into the playground as often as possible at lunch and breaktimes.

Children are allowed to wear wellington boots /boots to come to and leave school, however we do ask for **school shoes** to be worn in school



Top Tip

1# Every week children miss out on PE lessons because they have forgotten their PE kit. Our top tip is for PE kit to be brought into school on a Monday and left all week until Friday

2# If your child struggles with tying shoe laces, look for Velcro closing shoes ... these are widely available in most shoe shops and supermarket shoe departments

School Rules

We have three rules in our school. We ask everyone, our staff and our children, to be

Ready,
Respectful and
Safe.



You are able to monitor your own child's behaviour via the Schoolgateway app (free download). Please let the school know if you

require any assistance in downloading or setting this up. Alternatively, you can log in at www.schoolgateway.com



Medical Information

If your child suffers from asthma it is **vitaly important that they have their inhaler in school**. Please check with the main office if your child has asthma and you are unsure if your child has an inhaler in school.

Exciting New Attendance Scheme Coming Soon

Next term we are having a special attendance scheme. Every child with **100%** will qualify ... details to be released in January 2020 ... so watch this space

Here are some attendance facts:

1. The Government regard **95% as the minimum** satisfactory attendance
2. Keeping children away from school for no good reason is a **criminal offence**.
3. A 2 week holiday each year in primary school means a total of **14 weeks teaching time missed** — this could have a real impact on their basic literacy and numeracy skills.
4. Prolonged absence from school **can lead to loneliness**. It can make it harder or your child to get along with other children and make friends.

Diary dates

Wednesday 11th December – School Christmas dinner

Thursday 12th December – Christmas Service at the Minster 2pm - All welcome

Thursday 12th December - Reception Y1, Y2 Christmas disco (in school time)

Friday 13th December - Year 1 Nativity with parents

Friday 13th December - Christmas disco Y3, Y4, Y5, Y6 (in school time)

Friday 13th December – Christmas jumper day - £1 voluntary donation

Monday 16th December – Christmas Craft with parents Y4, Y5, Y6

Tuesday 17th December – Santa's Elf Candy Cane delivery

Wednesday 18th December – Non-school uniform day – no contribution

Wednesday 18th December – School closes at **3.15pm** for the Christmas holiday



HAPPY NEW YEAR

Monday 6th January – School Opens **8.40am**



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