

'Where charity and love are, God is there'

Newsletter 12.09.25– Term 1 -Week 1

What an absolutely fantastic start we've had to the new school year! It has been such a joy to see all of our pupils looking so smart and proud in their uniforms. I know how much effort families put into ensuring our children look their best, and it truly shows. Your free jumpers have been sent home today, which will help us maintain these wonderful uniform standards throughout the year.

I've had the pleasure of walking around our classrooms this week, and I'm delighted to report that I've witnessed calm and purposeful learning environments in every single one. It's wonderful to see how quickly our pupils have settled back into their routines and are working so diligently with their new teachers. The positive energy and focus I've observed has filled me with such pride and excitement for the year ahead.

A special mention must go to our new children who started in EYFS this week. They have settled in so beautifully, and I know that Miss Kerfoot and Miss Richardson are absolutely bursting with pride at how well they've adapted to school life. It's always heartwarming to welcome new families to our St Nicholas of Tolentine community, and these little ones have made such a lovely start to their educational journey with us.

As I reflect on these first few days, I'm filled with tremendous optimism and excitement. We have so much to look forward to this year - wonderful learning opportunities, exciting experiences, and countless moments of growth and achievement for all our pupils. Thank you to all our families for your continued support in making our school such a special place where children can thrive.

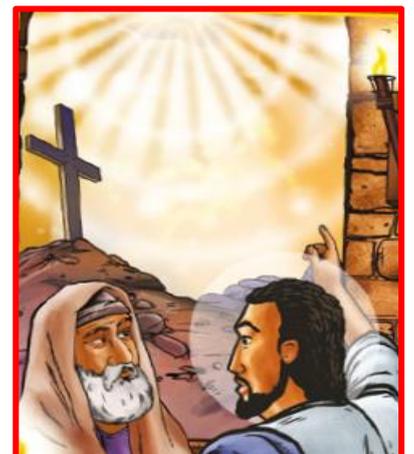
Reflection: John 3:13-17 The Exaltation of the Holy Cross

Jesus said to Nicodemus (who was a teacher of the law), "No one has gone up into heaven except the one who came down from heaven – that is, the Son of Man. God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may have everlasting life. God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world; he sent him to save the world."

God wants us to try to live like Jesus, to be 'self-giving', which is the opposite of being 'selfish'. To be 'self-giving' is to be very aware of others' needs or interests, and to put others' needs before our own.

It is self-giving which makes people truly great, warmly remembered and deeply loved. The happiest people on earth are actually those who are self-giving and serve others. So, enjoy your week together – bring peace and joy into your home and community by sharing God's love, through your self-giving.

How can we be self-giving, even in little ways, at home, at school or in the community?



**Dear Lord Jesus, thank you
for giving your life for us,
and for all the kind
people in our community
who show us your way of
love and self-giving. Amen.**

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Feast of St Nicholas Mass

On Wednesday we gathered at St Nicholas Church to celebrate Mass on the Feast day of St Nicholas. St. Nicholas of Tolentino was born in 1245 in Italy. He was born into a family who recognised his 'being' as a very special gift. From a young age, he joined a religious order, and lived a spiritual life. Because of his kind and gentle nature, he gave his life to feeding the poor each day. Even when people questioned him, he did not give up on what he felt was important. Even when St Nicholas become very ill himself, he still thought and gave generously to others in need. We thought about and prayed that we may be as kind, caring and generous as our special Saint, Saint Nicholas. The Chaplains were incredible and led the Mass beautifully, we know they are going to grow the Catholic life of the school even further this year.



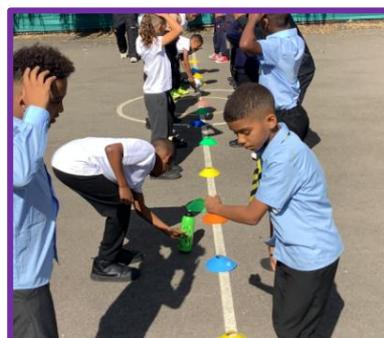
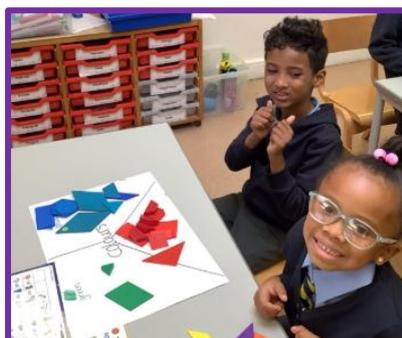
Welcome to our new Diamond Class

This week we have loved getting to know our new Reception children. They are already so settled, and we are extremely proud of them all. Each day they have been learning the routines and we have been particularly impressed with their behaviour at lunchtime. I know they are going to have an amazing year and I can't wait to watch them grow.



Back to School Learning

It has been lovely walking round the classes and seeing the work the children have been doing, all classes have been getting stuck into their new topics. The school has had a real buzz to it!



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Uniform

We are all so proud to be a part of St Nicholas school, and we have all seen first-hand the improvements made within the school. This year we are focusing on uniform, all children MUST wear correct uniform each day.

- Grey/black trousers, tailored shorts or skirt
- Pale blue polo shirt or shirt (ties to be worn with shirts)
- Navy blue jumper/cardigan
- Plain black shoes

PE KIT

- Plain white t-shirt
- Plain black/grey jogging bottoms or shorts
- Navy Jumper
- No Sports Sets
- Trainers or daps

All children have been provided with 1 free school jumper to support us in maintaining high standards of uniform.



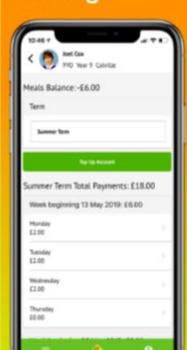
We are now using Arbor as the main source of communication for parents, at the moment we only have 49% of parents signed up. Please ensure you have signed up to be able to access all communication.



Check on your child from anywhere

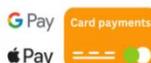


Make payments on the go



- View your child's Timetable, Clubs and Attendance
- Pay for School Meals
- View your child's Guilford Golds!
- Update your details
- Receive instant messages
- Sign up to trips and after-school clubs

No more forms!



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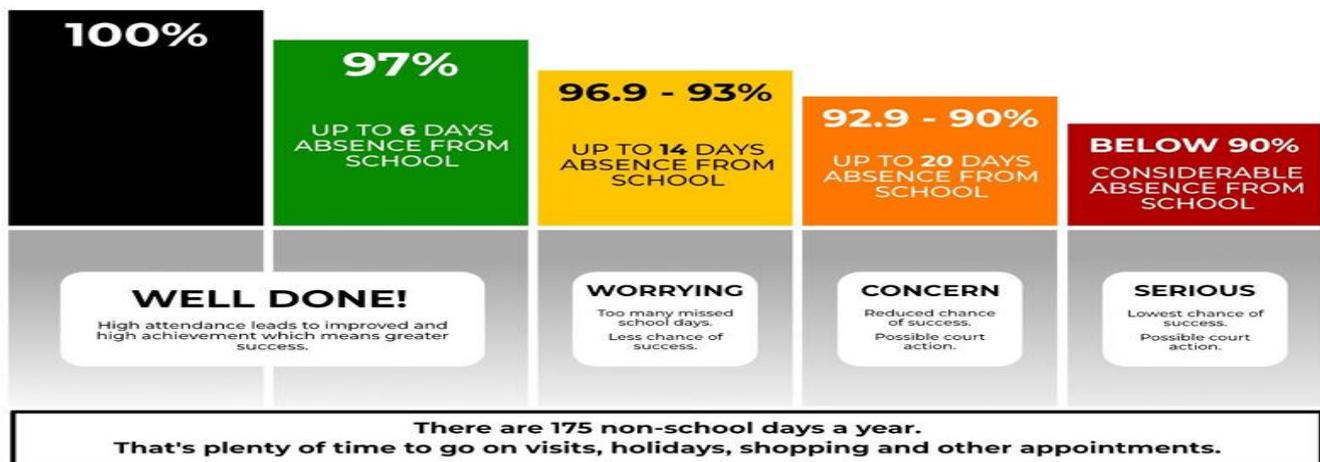
Attendance

Thank you to those children who attend school regularly and on time. We will continue to monitor closely, if attendance continues to be a concern, we will send out an earlier letter than the end of term. The target for all pupils is set at **96.1%** and any figure below is a concern.

Any classes who achieve a 100% attendance for the week will be able to have a non-school uniform day the following week.

Class	Yearly Attendance	This week's attendance	Late sessions this week
Diamond Class	87.22	98.33%	1
Emerald Class	89.07%	91.23%	8
Ruby Class	94.77%	96%	9
Amethyst Class	94.53%	99.07%	10
Sapphire Class	95%	96.11%	1
Topaz Class	94.38%	94.44%	11
Total	93.83%	95.63%	40

WHAT IS YOUR ATTENDANCE?



Thank you to those who attend regularly. Please remember to phone the school office if your child is going to be absent. If we do not hear from you, we will ring you and then may also make a home visit if we are unable to contact you. Thank you to those who arrive on time. Remember, children can go straight to class from 8:40am or attend breakfast club from 8am if necessary. There is also access to the walking bus if required. If your child is constantly late to school this can affect their self-esteem and they could be missing out on valuable reading, phonics or Maths activities and interventions.



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Term 6 Dates

Date	Event
Monday 22 nd September	Clubs Start
Wednesday 1 st October	Black History Month Starts
Thursday 2 nd October	Rags to Riches Collection
Wednesday 8 th October	Amethyst Trip to Muller Museum
Friday 17 th October	2.30pm – Diamond Class Stay and Play 2.30pm Parent, Sharing Learning – come and see your children's books
Monday 20 th October	Nasal Flu Vaccine
Friday 24 th October	2pm – Black History Month Assembly Term 1 Finishes
Monday 3 rd November	INSET Day – School closed to children

Thank you for your continued support

Mrs R James