

'Where charity and love are, God is there'

Term 3 Newsletter 09.01.26

Happy New Year to our wonderful school community!

I hope everyone enjoyed a restful break, and it's been lovely welcoming our pupils back to St Nicholas of Tolentine. What a fantastic start to the term we've had!

This week has been filled with incredible moments. Our choir experienced an absolutely amazing opportunity at the Young Voices Concert in Birmingham. Watching our children sing and dance with such incredible enthusiasm was truly inspiring. They performed with one of the largest children's choirs, creating a memory they'll cherish for years to come.

We celebrated the Epiphany Mass on Thursday, with our pupils looking smart and wonderfully prepared for learning. Their reverence and engagement during this special feast day was heartwarming.

I do want to address an important matter - attendance. This week, our attendance levels have been lower than we'd like. We're a team, and we need every child in school, learning and growing. Our school doors open at 8.40am, and we encourage pupils to arrive on time and get straight into their learning. Remember any class achieving 100% attendance next week will enjoy a non-uniform day! Let's work together to ensure our pupils are present, punctual, and ready to learn.

Matthew 3:13-17 The Baptism of the Lord, Year A

Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to be baptised by John. John tried to dissuade him. "It is I who need baptism from you," he said, "and yet you come to me!" But Jesus replied, "Leave it like this for the time being; it is fitting that we should, in this way, do all that righteousness demands." At this, John gave in to him. As soon as Jesus was baptised he came up from the water, and suddenly the heavens opened and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming down on him. And a voice spoke from heaven, "This is my Son, the Beloved; my favour rests on him."

Regardless of our past, God invites each one of us to make a new start, each and every day. Families who make a new start with God find that they grow closer together and begin to know and share the joy that Jesus brings.

"Every day we must begin anew. Have patience with all things — but first of all with yourself." St. Francis de Sales

As we begin this new year, are there any new starts that we can make with our family, friends or with God?



**Dear Lord Jesus, please
help me to be always
ready to make a new start
with you and with each
other as we start this New
Year. Amen.**

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St Nicks Choir Joins Young Voices

Our talented St Nicholas Choir had an unforgettable experience as they travelled to Birmingham to join the incredible Young Voices Choir. Singing alongside hundreds of other children, their performance of Wicked Melody was truly out of this world! The energy was electric as they danced along to the music and sang their hearts out. A huge thank you to Miss Drysdale for organising this fantastic opportunity, and to Miss Hassett and Miss Phipps for accompanying the group. We already can't wait to do it all again next year!



Epiphany Mass

This week, our school community came together for a beautiful Mass to celebrate the Feast of the Epiphany. On January 6th, Christians around the world remember the day when the wise men visited Jesus as a child and welcomed Him as the Son of God. It's a moment that reminds us how special it is to truly encounter Christ in our lives. As Scripture tells us: "They saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him." (Matthew 2:11) Our Chaplains led us brilliantly in prayer and reflection, helping us to understand the importance of Epiphany and what it means for us today. It was a truly uplifting celebration!



**St Nicholas of Tolentine RC
Primary School**
Pupils feel valued and
cared for, leading to
them developing a
strong sense of worth.
548 June 2023

**ADMISSIONS
2026/2027**
Where Charity and Love
are, God is there.

OPEN DAY VISITS

- Thursday 6th November 1.30pm - 3.00pm
- Wednesday 20th November 9.30am - 11.00am
- Friday 5th December 1.30pm - 3.00pm
- Monday 8th December 9.30am - 11.00am
- Friday 9th January 9.30am - 11.00am

CONTACT US:
01173772260
Pennywell Road, Bristol,
BS5 0TJ
www.stnicholas.bristol.sch.uk

If you are unable to make these dates please contact the school office to book a suitable time.



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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

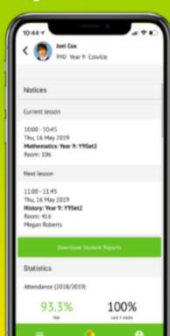
All children have been provided with 1 free school jumper to support us in maintaining high standards of uniform.



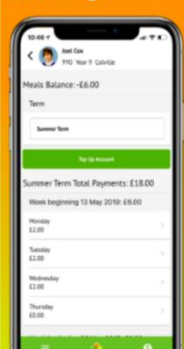
We are now using Arbor as the main source of communication for parents, at the moment we only have 49% of parents signed up. Please ensure you have signed up to be able to access all communication.



Check on your child from anywhere



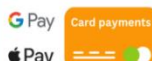
Make payments on the go



 **Arbor** App & Portal

- 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!



Attendance

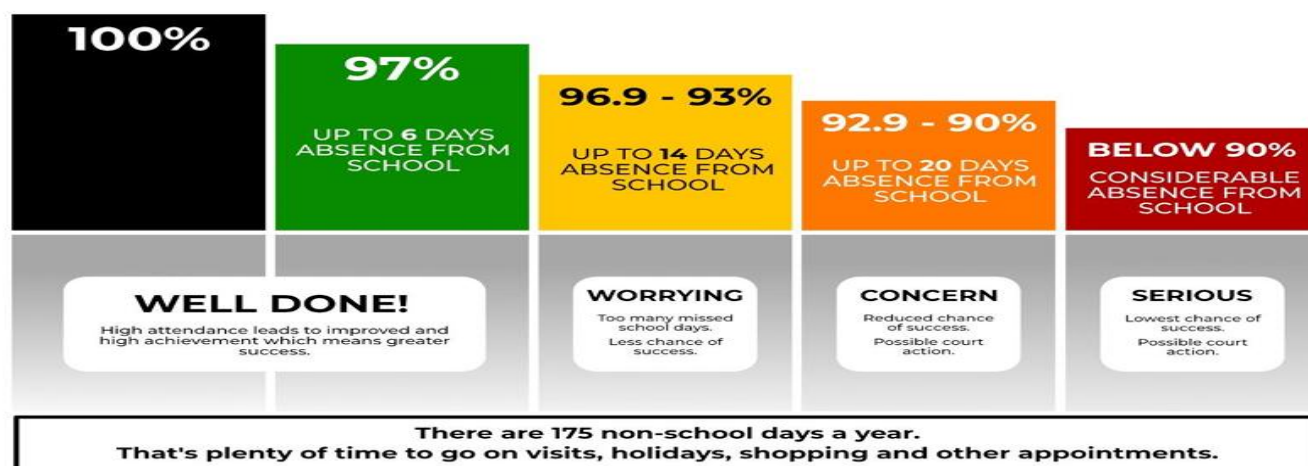
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Thank you to those children who attend school regularly and on time. We will continue to monitor closely, if attendance continues to be a concern, we will send out an earlier letter than the end of term. The target for all pupils is set at **96.1%** 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	94.3%	92.5%	
Emerald Class	84.6%	83.5%	
Ruby Class	94.5%	92%	
Amethyst Class	95%	91.1%	
Sapphire Class	97.3%	96.4%	
Topaz Class	93.6%	93.7%	
Total	93.6%	92%	

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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Principal: Mrs Rachael James

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Term 2 Dates

Date	Event
Monday 12 th January	EYFS Open Afternoon 1.30pm – Admissions 2026/2027 Clubs Start
Tuesday 3 rd February	EYFS Bath City Farm
Wednesday 4 th February	1.30pm – Free Family Forest Session
Friday 13 th February	2.45pm – Parents Sharing Learning – come and have a look at your child's books

Thank you for your continued support

Mrs R James