

St Nicolas' CE Combined School Newsletter

Jesus said, 'I am the vine and you are the branches'



Friday 13th December 2024

Christmas is nearly here and the school is full of sparkle, reindeer and excitement!

Ash Class shone in their nativity, The Bethlehem Bake-Off, and were supported by singing and dancing shepherds and sheep from Elm Class and beautiful angels from Chestnut Class.



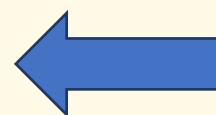
Pupil quote of the week

"Could I be the next Louis Armstrong?"

Trumpeter in year 5

100%	Perfection
98%	Impressive
97%	Very good
96%	Good
95%	Nearly there
94%	Needs to improve
<94%	Poor

Attendance matters



Attendance for this week was a good **96%**

End of term

The last day of term is **Friday 20th December.**

School will finish at :

1.20pm for EYFS and KS1

1.30pm for KS2

Busy Bunch will not be running that afternoon.



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Home Learning Parent Survey

Too much? Too little?

We are reviewing our home learning policy and would like to hear from you. How would you like home learning to look in the future? What works for you and your child?

Our current programme and policy are on the website under the Curriculum tab. We will shape our new policy and expectation with input from yourselves, the children and teachers, using research evidence. The survey will be open until the end of the month and we look forward to hearing from you.

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=RrQ7rlb1nU-CD10rOEz0eTflhP6BwC5GrDaFIUcT3lhUQzQxMVdLU1dQV05HOUxXSDRYOVpMTEY2Ri4u>

PTA 20.24 Challenge



Well done to Year 1 for raising an incredible £357.48.

They were very excited to find out that the PTA are rewarding their efforts with a very special party afternoon next week and a glitterball for their classroom!

Reading at St Nic's

'The Story of Snow' by Jon Nelson

How do snow crystals form? What shapes can they take? Are no two snow crystals alike? These questions and more are answered inside this exploration of the science of snow. Perfect for reading on winter days.



Planner Design Competition 2025

Calling all our creative children!

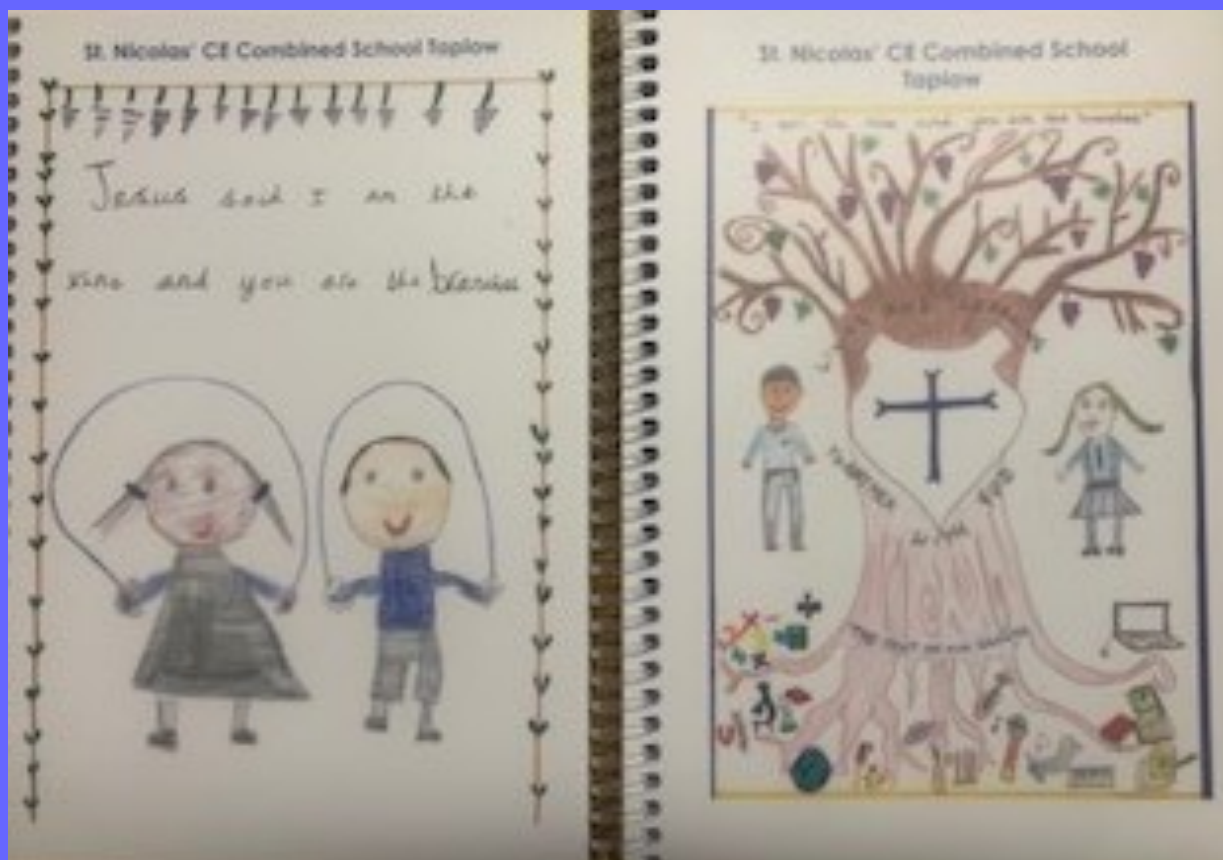
We are looking for two fabulous designs for our 2025 KS1 and KS2 planners. The winning designs will show something special about life at St Nic's, and we would like them to include our vision:

Jesus said, I am the vine and you are the branches

What will your design be?

Entries should be in portrait format, on A4 paper or digitally produced.

Closing date 9am Friday 10th January 2025



These were last year's wonderful winning designs, by Mia and Emmie.

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House Points

Jaguars	Pumas	Lions	Tigers
207	401	287	398

Congratulations to the Pumas

Maidenhead Magpie Clubs

Maidenhead Magpie clubs are finishing this week. Please remember to collect your child/children at normal school finish time next week.



House Football

Tigers 1-0
Pumas
Well done
Tigers!

Young Climate Warriors

There are 50-430 billion birds in the world, compared to 8 billion humans.

Birds are having to try to adapt to climate change. Some are laying eggs earlier, some are changing their migration routes, others altering their nesting locations. They need our help.

UK garden birds to spot: starlings, house sparrows, blackbirds, blue tits, great tits, robins, greenfinches and collared doves.

Robins sing throughout the winter. They tend to be the first to start singing at dawn and the last to stop at night.

Pause and enjoy our wild birds ...

Wild birds challenge!

Your challenge is to pause and notice our wild birds - and help support them through the winter.

Make a Christmas wreath for birds, or a simpler toilet roll bird feeder?

Listen out and try to recognise a robin's song? Learn how to draw a simple robin?

When you've completed this challenge ... Remember to hit the red button!



'Nothing in the world is quite as adorably lovely as a robin when he shows off...'

'The Secret Garden' by Frances Hodgson Burnett.



www.youngclimatewarriors.org

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Missing Headteacher Awards – 6th December 2024



Elm: Aidan for working hard on the presentation of his work.

Jiya for improved focus in class and a great attitude to rehearsing the Nativity.

SEN

All SEN plans have been updated and if any parents would like a meeting with Mrs Birch following these, please do get in

Reindeer Run for Thames Hospice

Well done to all that took part in the reindeer run today. We will update you with the amount raised for Thames Hospice next week.



"The reindeer run was fabulous! The music really added to the atmosphere."

Dolly-Belle

"We had so much fun." **Tamanna**

"I did fourteen laps." **Hazel C**



Headteacher Awards



Chestnut: Jayden for singing our Christmas songs so enthusiastically during rehearsals. **Sadie** for remembering the actions and words to the Christmas songs and helping others to learn them.

Elm: Elodie for her enthusiasm with our church visit and asking Reverend Jane thoughtful questions.

Dhaani for improved focus and great effort with her learning this week.

Ash: Arabelle for working really hard on her handwriting in her lessons this week. **Betsy** for writing fabulous factual sentences about meerkats.

Oak: Hari for showing lots of enthusiasm and great listening skills during DT this week when he was preparing and cooking a vegetable curry. **Ivy** for writing an excellent historical narrative and showing a mature attitude towards her learning.

Pine: Jacob C for always working hard to present his work neatly and produce beautiful handwriting. **Hazel C** for being a great partner in maths, sharing her tips for how to solve problems and helping others to understand.

Willow: Azalea for being a resilient, independent learner this week showing increased confidence in maths. **Evelyn** for mastering converting improper fractions to mixed numbers and subtracting fractions with different denominators.

Fir: Oscar for good focus, taking pride in his work and developing a growth mindset. **Chester** for working hard to write a magical descriptive opening to his Christmas story.

And finally...

Enjoy your weekend!

Ms Holmes and the team.





PTA and Community News

Little Tanks spring term 2025 – Bookings now Open!!

Bookings are now ****OPEN**** for Little Tanks after school drama club for the spring term 2025, giving you an opportunity to secure your child's space before the new after school drama club starts on **Monday the 13th of January**.

The start of term normally generates a surge of applications therefore if you are interested, please complete payment to avoid disappointment as there are currently now **only limited spaces** available for our Monday class.

Application form – [Click here to complete](#)

- Day – Monday
- Account Name: Little Tanks Ltd
- Account Number: 9949 3876
- Sort Code: 60-83-71
- Reference: SN followed by your child's name
- Amount: £75.00
- Both the form & fee via bank transfer are required to be submitted to secure your child's space
- Flyer attached for more information
-

We look forward to welcoming your child to Little Tanks next term and working on developing their confidence skills. If you have any queries, please contact: debi@littletanks.co.uk