

St Nicolas' CE Combined School Newsletter

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



Friday 6th December 2024

We have news on our efforts to reinstate hot lunches, although the changes won't happen just yet. The Kids Lunch Co have found a new unit locally and hope to sign the lease early in the New Year. Once signed, the unit will need to be fitted out as a commercial kitchen. They aim to be able to offer us jacket potatoes and pasta bake after Easter, and a comprehensive hot food menu from September.

In the meantime, we have been monitoring lunch and there is a good choice of white or brown bread/rolls with a choice of cheese,

ham, chicken, tuna, egg, philo and cucumber or marmite fillings.

There is plenty of really fresh, chunky cucumber, red and yellow pepper, and the children in Chestnut, Elm and Ash are encouraged to have these by Mrs Warren, who serves them. Older children help themselves. There is also a large basket of fresh fruit each day, and yoghurts. Crisps are served by an adult in a small portion and bagels come in a tiny packet. Children may choose one or the other. There are often mini cheeses or rice cakes, sometimes biscuits and Friday is cake day.

We encourage the children to eat everything on offer and we educate around healthy eating in our PSHE curriculum.

Please be reassured we are as keen as you are to provide the best nutrition for the children and doing the best we can with what is available. The Kids Lunch Co will keep us updated with their progress and we will let you know when there is more information.

Pupil quote of the week

During a discussion about the Stone Age man:

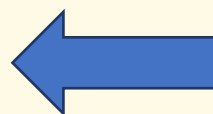
"What age are we in now?"

"Plastic Age"

replied a year 3 pupil

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

Attendance matters



this week was a good **96.5%**

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Last day 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.

KS1 Nativity

Reception and KS1 Nativity play 'Bethlehem Bake -Off' takes place on Wednesday 11th and Thursday 12th December at 2.15pm in the school hall. Tickets have been allocated and have been sent home.

Please ensure that you bring your tickets on the day of the performance as entry will not be permitted without them.



Reindeer Run for Thames Hospice Friday 13th December

Should they wish, pupils may wear a Christmas or festive jumper with their uniform on the day. Please do not go out and buy a new jumper, just add a festive decoration to something you already own.



Young Climate Warriors

Palm oil can be found in nearly 50% of supermarket packaged products!

Palm trees are very 'efficient', they produce 4-10 times more oil per hectare than soybean, coconut, rapeseed or sunflower oil crops – hence the need to support 'sustainable' palm oil.

Palm oil production is expected to quadruple by 2050. Latin America and Southeast Asia are expanding production – to the detriment of biodiverse habitats and climate change.

Check out this ['palm oil' app](#) – for scanning bar codes in the supermarket!

Calling all detectives ... time for a hunt round your bathroom!

Shampoo, margarine, shower gel, oven chips, deodorant, bread and ice cream - what do they have in common?

Be a detective - which of your bathroom products contain palm oil?

Non-sustainably managed palm oil is driving climate change - 'Sustainable Palm Oil' is key!

Clue - hunt for 'PALM', 'STEAR', 'LAUR', or 'GLYC' - these could mean palm oil!

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



Boycotting palm oil is not the answer, but demanding more action to tackle the issue is. (WWF)



www.youngclimatewarriors.org

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Year 5 and 6 choir

Well done to our year 5 and 6 choir who sang beautifully at Tesco Taplow on Tuesday.

A fabulous £91.09 was raised for Beautiful Gate in Lesotho.

KS2 Ukulele Group

Christmas was truly brought to assembly on Thursday morning with a wonderful performance of Feliz Navidad by the KS2 ukulele group. The whole school enjoyed singing along.



Threadworms

We have been made aware of cases of threadworm in classes. Please check and treat your child as soon as possible to prevent further spread.

We are encouraging the children to wash their hands regularly and not put their hands in their mouths.

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/threadworms/#:~:text=If%20you%20or%20your%20child,off%20nursery%2C%20school%20or%20work>

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Headteacher Awards



Chestnut: Savannah for working very hard on sharing resources and working well with others.

River for always working well with others and talking about her learning.

Elm: Bob for

Ash: Henry for producing an excellent design for his fire engine. **Ava** for identifying useful sources that historians use to study the Great Fire of London.

Oak: Bea for being an excellent singer during our build up to the carol concert. **Tobias** for taking more care with the presentation of his work. Keep it up!

Pine: Harry for excellent control of the ball when practising dribbling skills in hockey for PE, and remembering to only use one face of the stick to move the ball.

Henry for the noticeable effort being made to form letters, and present his work, neatly.

Willow: Oliver for reflecting the class value of honesty this week and being a positive, active learner. **Eleanor** for attention to detail in her biography writing and excellent focus in lesson activities.

Fir: Anabel for her excellent verbal contributions and consistently mature attitude towards learning. **Moses** for his enthusiasm in sharing his knowledge and always striving to improve his learning

And finally...

A Happy St Nicolas Day to you all! The whole school celebrated in church with Open the Book, a little help from Rev Jane and Year 3 and our very special St Nicolas from Year 6. Have a lovely weekend, **Ms Holmes**





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 & Wednesday the 15th 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 2 spaces** left for our Wednesday class with more availability on the Monday class.

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

- Day – Monday or Wednesday
- 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