

# St Nicolas' CE Combined School Newsletter

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



## Friday 18th October 2024

Congratulations to our U11 girls who won their first football match of the season 7-0 against Stoke Poges. What a start!

Thank you Miss Oplaat for coaching and refereeing, and to everyone who came along to support.

### Pupil quote of the week

A member of staff talking to a year 3 pupil "What can I do to help you?"

Childs reply "You can make me a cup of tea."

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 nearly there **95.3%**



### Year 6 River Dart Assembly

We are excited to invite the families of Y6 to join us for their class assembly in the school hall at 9am on Tuesday 22nd October.



### Reading at St Nic's

To the children at St Nics!  
If you have enjoyed reading a book and want to share it in the newsletter, then please write a short book review. You will need to include:

- **Name of the book and author**
- **Your name and class**
- **A brief description (e.g. what the book was about, your favourite part or why others should read it)**

Please hand your book review to Mrs Anderson





*Y6 on the high ropes last week*

*photo by Ellie*

## *School Trips and Residentials*

We want to take a moment to celebrate the many benefits of school trips and residential visits, while being very aware of the pressures of cost on families. We believe that school trips play an increasingly important role in the education and personal development of our children.

As you may be aware, the Department for Education requires us to ask for voluntary donations and to ensure that no child is left out of these valuable experiences. We understand that financial constraints can sometimes make it difficult for families to contribute, and we want to assure you that careful consideration is given by our leadership team when planning trips. We are mindful of both the cost to families and the limitations of our school budget, should the voluntary contributions received not cover the full cost.

PTO

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To help you plan ahead, we would like to provide you with this overview of the trips we currently run and their approximate costs:

For children in EYFS, Year 1, Year 2, Year 3 and Year 5, the total cost of trips is approximately £50 per child per year. In years 4 and 6, there are residential visits where the children stay overnight. These cost more, as they include bed, board and travel as well as a full programme of activities. This year we have arranged a 2-day residential trip to Ufton Court for Year 4, which will cost £187 and an adventure week at the



River Dart in Devon for Year 6, which cost £499.

We encourage parents who are experiencing difficulties with the cost of trips to come and speak to us, but would also like to invite the whole school community to join in a conversation with us as we continually review our provision. We want to ensure that our trips and visits are accessible to all, brilliant for the children's development and realistically affordable. If you would like to give us any feedback, please email Ms Holmes and Ms Jones via the school office.

## River Dart caving, before and after...



## A few words from Year 6

'It was the best week EVER! The food was fantastic (especially breakfast) and the activities were awesome.' **Anon**

'Before I went I had my friends that I normally speak to a school; when I was there I got to know a lot more people in my activity group.' **Saskia**

'Activities like crate stacking and rock climbing helped strengthen team building with lots of jobs so no one was left out.' **Moses**



'It helped me to push myself out of my comfort zone, especially when I showed a friend how to 'dangle' on the high ropes (although it was hard to get back up again!) **Chloe**

'River Dart helped our class to bond and find our strengths.' **Anabel**

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## House Points

Jaguars	Pumas	Lions	Tigers
522	639	439	542

**Congratulations to the Pumas**

## Busy Bunch

This week at Busy Bunch we were inspired by Roald Dahl



### Coming up:

Next week's theme is Harry Potter



## Macmillan Coffee Morning update

Willow class would like to thank everyone who donated towards the

Macmillan Coffee Morning they raised a fabulous £387.60

## Parents Evening

Parent consultations will be on Wednesday 23rd October from 1:30-7.30pm, in the hall. School and Busy Bunch will be open for children as usual.

[SchoolCloud - St Nicolas' CE Combined School, Taplow](#)

## Young Climate Warriors

Dr. Jane Goodall, world-renowned chimpanzee expert, now 90, continues to inspire hope globally. Her four reasons for hope: human intellect, nature's resilience, the power of young people, and the indomitable human spirit. Do you agree?

**Join Jane in inspiring hope through action by undertaking this challenge. Find out more about her here ... and watch her 'Reasons for hope' video.**

'Vampire power' can account for over 10% of total home electricity use – unbelievably 77 million appliances are left on, or on standby, every day in the UK!

Don't just 'stand-by' ... take action & then 'share it'!

Little glowing eyes follow you in the dark ... as you leave the room at night ... as you leave to go to school ... they just carry on glowing. Can you guess what these energy-sucking vampires are?

Hunt down all little red or green eyes – count how many you find – and then switch them off (checking with your parent/carer first).

Don't just 'stand-by', take action! Send us photos of 'vampire eyes' – and tell us how many vampires you have slain [theologyoungclimatewarriors.org](http://theologyoungclimatewarriors.org)

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






**'What YOU do makes a difference, and you have to decide what kind of difference you want to make'.**

**Dame Jane Goodall**



[www.youngclimatewarriors.org](http://www.youngclimatewarriors.org)



## Headteacher Awards



**Chestnut: Christian** for a careful creation of a fox after we had read The Gingerbread Man. **Caleb** for being kind and helpful and always being keen to tidy up.

**Elm: Albie** for great map reading skills in geography and enthusiasm on our Autumn walk. **Evie** for great computing skills and helping and supporting other children in computing lessons

**Ash: Billy** for his super use of resources to help him understand how to add to the next 10 on a number line. **Milana** for her excellent use of adverbs in her sentence writing with Jack and the beanstalk.

**Oak: Xanthe** for a week of outstanding focus and hard work across all subjects. **Jimmy** for showing resilience and always starting the day with a smile.

**Pine: Harley** and **Emelia** for working together effectively as a team and using concrete resources to help them understand how to add 4-digit numbers in maths.

**Willow: Matilda** for using all the features required to make an excellent newspaper article. **Ava** for great organisational skills and showing the independence year 5 requires.

**Fir: Louis** for always being a dependable and cheerful member of the class (and a great whale!). **Grace** for her thoughtfulness and mature approach to learning

## And finally...

Our website calendar is regularly updated with important dates. Did you know you have the option of subscribing to this? Please follow the link below to find out how.

**How to subscribe to the calendar:**

<https://www.stnicolastaplow.com/diary/subscribe/>

Wishing you all a relaxing and peaceful weekend,

**Ms Holmes**





## PTA and Community News

**PANTO**  
*Dick Whittington*

**WINDSOR THEATRE**  
**THURSDAY 28TH NOVEMBER 2024**  
**7PM SHOWING**

ORGANISED BY THE PTA  
St Nicolas' School PTA  
TAPLOW

**£18**  
**PER TICKET**  
RRP  
**£36**

LIMITED AVAILABILITY  
SEATING IN CIRCLE ROWS A - H  
(ALLOCATED ONCE BOOKED)  
SEATING PLAN AVAILABLE HERE

<https://stnicolaspta.sumupstore.com/product/panto-ticket-2024>

Seating plan for info

<https://theatreroyalwindsor.co.uk/whats-on/seating-plan/>