



St Nicolas' CE Combined School Newsletter

Living and learning together with God

Friday 10th October 2025



Welcome home from Dartmoor Year 6!

We are proud of you and are looking forward to hearing all about your adventures at the River Dart.



Packed Lunches

We have noticed a few inappropriate items in the children's lunchboxes and feel a reminder would be useful. Please see the information below from the new starter pack.

If you decide to provide a packed lunch for your child, please ensure that it does not contain chocolate bars, sweets, fizzy drinks or any products containing nuts (including Nutella and chocolate spread). This helps to support our healthy schools initiative and protect children with allergies. Please do not put too much in the lunchbox, so that your child can eat it in the half an hour lunchtime. A piece of fruit for break time is supplied for EYFS and KS1 children. KS2 children should bring in a fresh fruit or vegetable snack.



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BBC 500 Words Competition

Children had an assembly this week to introduce the BBC's 500 words story competition. The children were very excited! Please visit the website below for more details. Children need to enter at home but we will be having lots of discussions about it in school.

The competition opens on Tuesday 23rd September and closes on Friday 7th November.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/500-words>

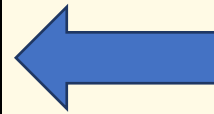
Pupil quote of the week

"I've moved up lanes in swimming, I'm well chuffed!"

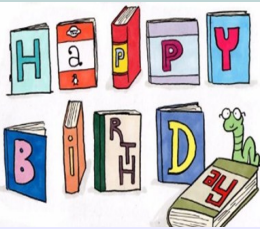
Year 4 swimmer

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 an impressive **98.4%**



At St Nicolas we love celebrating your birthdays! **We have a birthday book wish list on the English section of our website.** Any

book purchased for your child's birthday will have their name placed inside the book and will be presented in assembly. This book will then be placed in the library to be enjoyed by others for many years to come. Please hand any books bought to the office with your child's name and birthday details.

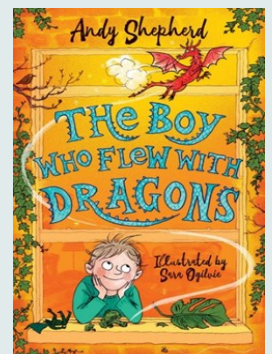
Reading at St Nic's

'The boy who flew with dragons,' by Andy Shepherd

This book is very exciting and lots of fun.

Hugo, Ash Class

Suitable for ages 6+





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PTA Happy Bags

Thank you for your donations of unwanted clothing for recycling/re-use. We amassed a hefty 682kg which filled the bike shed and raised £282.60.

Busy Bunch

This week at Busy Bunch we created bugs from leaves.



Coming up:

Next week's theme is autumn colours.

Important safeguarding notice: children's books

We want to make you aware of a recent issue affecting some popular children's books by Andrew Cope, including **Spy Dogs**, **Spy Cats** and **Spy Pups**. Some editions contain a printed web address at the back, which used to go to the author's website, but the domain is no longer under his control. It has been taken over by another party and now leads to inappropriate adult content. The website has no connection to the author or publisher. We have checked our library and do not have any copies of these books.

What this means for you:

- If your child has any **Spy Dogs**, **Spy Cats** or **Spy Pups** books at home, please check the back for website links and remove the page or use a sharpie to hide the link.
- It is safe for children to continue reading the stories themselves– the concern is only with the link at the back of the book.
- Always test out links from any source before allowing children to visit them.

Thank you, and don't stop reading!

Parents' Meeting

We look forward to seeing you all on **Tuesday 14th October** for parents meetings.



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Year 3 shared write poem

Year 3 have been studying humorous poems and collaborated to write their own version of 'At the end of school assembly'. Well done Oak class.

'At the end of school assembly'

Mrs. Bunny's class hopped off,
Mr. Football's class shot out,
Mr. Elephant's class stomped out,
Mrs Frog's class croaked out.

Mrs. Bubble's class popped out,
Mr. Snail's class slid out,
Mr. Snake's class slithered out,
Miss. Cheetah's class sprinted out.

Mr. Lava's class exploded out,
Mr. Car's lot drove out,
Mrs. Gymnastics's class backflipped out,
Miss. Monkey's class swang out.

Mr. Bowling's class rolled out,
Miss. Cartwheel's class span out,
Mr. Smart's class worked themselves out,
Mr. Ball's class got kicked out.

Mr. Volcano's class erupted out,
Mr. Strong's class worked out,
Mrs. Mouse's lot zoomed out,
Mr. Cook's class scrambled out.
Mr. Builder's class constructed their way out,
Mrs. Eagle's class glided out,
Mr. Key's class got locked out.
Mr. Poppit's class popped out.

Mr. Slime's class slid out,
Mrs. Swimming's class dived out,
Miss. Tree's class walked tall,
Mr. Disco's class boogied out.

Miss Jam's class got stuck to their seats!

Elm Class—science

Year 1 worked in groups to investigate four different senses (sight, taste, smell and touch).





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Black History Month

Standing Firm in Power and Pride



This week we started our celebration of Black history month. It is a month when more can be learnt about Black History, challenge racism and celebrate achievements and contributions of Black people in Britain. The theme this year is 'Standing Firm in Power and Pride'.

In assembly, we heard about the character Sunshine Simpson. With the help of her family, especially her Grandad Bobby, Sunshine Simpson finds in the story that she is inspired by others that look like her and are not afraid to develop their talents and gifts. They encourage her to stand tall and proud!

Over the coming weeks we will be learning and talking about Black characters in books and finding out about achievements of Black and mixed heritage people in Britain. We will be continuing to think about how we describe our own ethnicity or race whilst celebrating our similarities and differences.

Who is this?

What are her talents and skills?

What has she achieved?

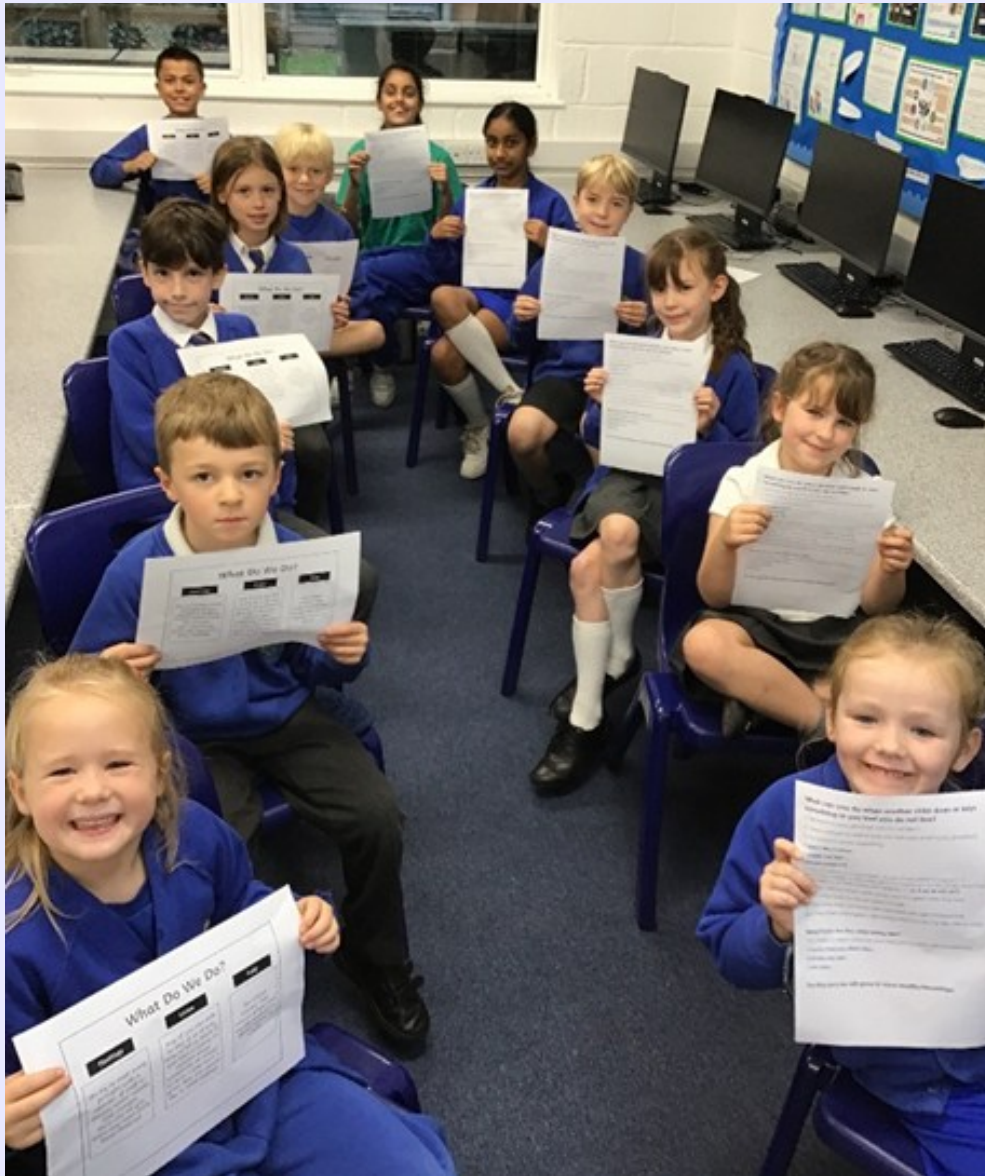




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School Council 2025-2026 meet for the first time this year.



Last Friday an enthusiastic school council went back to their classes to introduce their role for their classes this year.

They were also challenged to hold a discussion with their classes about what to do when someone does or says something to you that you do not like. They decided that they would practise with the class the sentences that children should say and listen out for children using these sentences.



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Headteacher Awards



Chestnut: **Kylo** for being conscientious and careful when being the milk helper. **Emily** for beginning to show confidence in choosing different activities.

Elm: **Amar H** for always settling quickly to complete his work and for working independently. **Eleanor** for a fabulous attitude to learning, hard work and always being positive and willing to support others.

Ash: **Jack** for the wonderful and thoughtful questions he asked in RE when we discussed stories from The Torah. **Aidan** for his great choice of colours when painting the London skyline with watercolours.

Oak: **Sophie** for taking on all challenges with a smile and not being daunted by so many new ways of working. Well done for a fabulous first week! **Leo** for challenging himself in maths, especially with solving some missing number problems.

Pine: **Niall** for his excellent piece of descriptive writing, which included some brilliant expanded noun phrases. **Maia** for her creative collage portrait in art.

Willow: **Tamanna** for being an excellent tour guide around school, supporting her peers. **Felix** for being a polite, thoughtful and focussed young man this week.

Fir: **All of Fir Class** for a fantastic week at the River Dart with a can-do attitude!

And finally...

We are excited to invite the families of Y6 to join us for their class assembly in the school hall at 9am on Tuesday 4th November. It will be all about the River Dart trip.

Happy washing! *Ms Holmes and the team*





PTA and Community News

Christmas Raffle Appeal

We're getting ready for our amazing Christmas Fair Raffle — and we need your help!

☞ Do you own a business, or work somewhere that could donate a prize?

☞ Could your company support a local school charity?

We're collecting raffle prizes — big or small — to raise funds for our school!

From vouchers and experiences to hampers or treats, every donation makes a difference!

Get in touch: sophie@stnicolaspta.co.uk

Or drop off donations at the school office.

Thank you for supporting our school community!



Your School Lottery

Have you bought your ticket for the school lottery? It's such an easy way to WIN BIG. DO GOOD... & FEEL GREAT!

Not only can you win £25,000 PLUS a guaranteed cash prize every week — you could win an iPhone 17 Pro in the super draw!

To buy a ticket and support our school visit

<https://www.yourschoollottery.co.uk/lottery/school/st-nicolas-church-of-england-combined-school>

Thank you so much for your support.



PTA and Community News

PLEASE JOIN US FOR OUR

Christmas Fair

ST NICOLAS' SCHOOL, TAPLOW, SL6 OET

SAT 22ND NOV | 12-3PM

*Santa's grotto
Fantastic raffle with amazing prizes
Bottle tombola
Food + drinks
Letters to Santa
Children's Tombola + games
Biscuit decorating
NEW! - The Snow Globe
Selection of external stalls +
much much more...*

We can't wait to see you there!

19/11/2024



PTA and Community News

Maidenhead United
in the Community



OCTOBER FOOTBALL CAMP



October
20-25th

Boys and Girls 4-11 yrs old

Location : The Cage at MUFC
York Road SL6 1SF

BOOK HERE!



£25 per day, 10am to 3pm
£3 early dropoff, 9am to 10am

for details email :
mark.nisbet@maidenheadunitedfc.org



PTA and Community News

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ 12th ★ ★ ★ ★ ★
MAIDENHEAD TOWN
SHOW
25
★ ★ ★ ★ ★

JOIN US

**FAMILY
FUN**

Join us on Sunday 19 October 2025 from 10AM - 5PM for a free, family-friendly celebration of local creativity. Enjoy live music, local artisans and food & drink, demos and competitions, a free petting zoo, fun dog show, chocolate monster trail, plus lots more in support of TVAP.



SUNDAY 19 OCTOBER 2025



**MAIDENHEAD TOWN CENTRE
HIGH STREET & NICHOLSONS CENTRE
MAIDENHEAD SL6 1LB**



WWW.MAIDENHEADSHOW.CO.UK



Children's competitions categories:

FREE to enter - top prize - Legoland day pass for family of 4!

1. Fruit & veg masterpiece - for example, animal, car, house, ugly bug
2. A castle for.... create a bee or insect home
3. 'Best in Maidenhead' - a poster to advertise Maidenhead

Pre-school only:

4. Decorate a cupcake
5. Paint your pet friend - or an animal you like
6. Nature art - create a collage using only natural materials - leaves, sticks, petals etc

For more information - and adult categories - please visit the website.



PTA and Community News



IN CHURCH....



**Harvest Crafts, Lego Table
Vegetable Competitions...**

**★ Best decorated ★ Biggest of
its kind ★ Most unusual shape
Jacket-filled Potato Supper**

THEN IN THE RECTORY GARDEN....

**Bonfire, Singing
Hot Chocolate, Ginger Parkin**



Tickets: £10 adults, £5 Children, Family Ticket £25

Available from st-nicolas-taplow.org

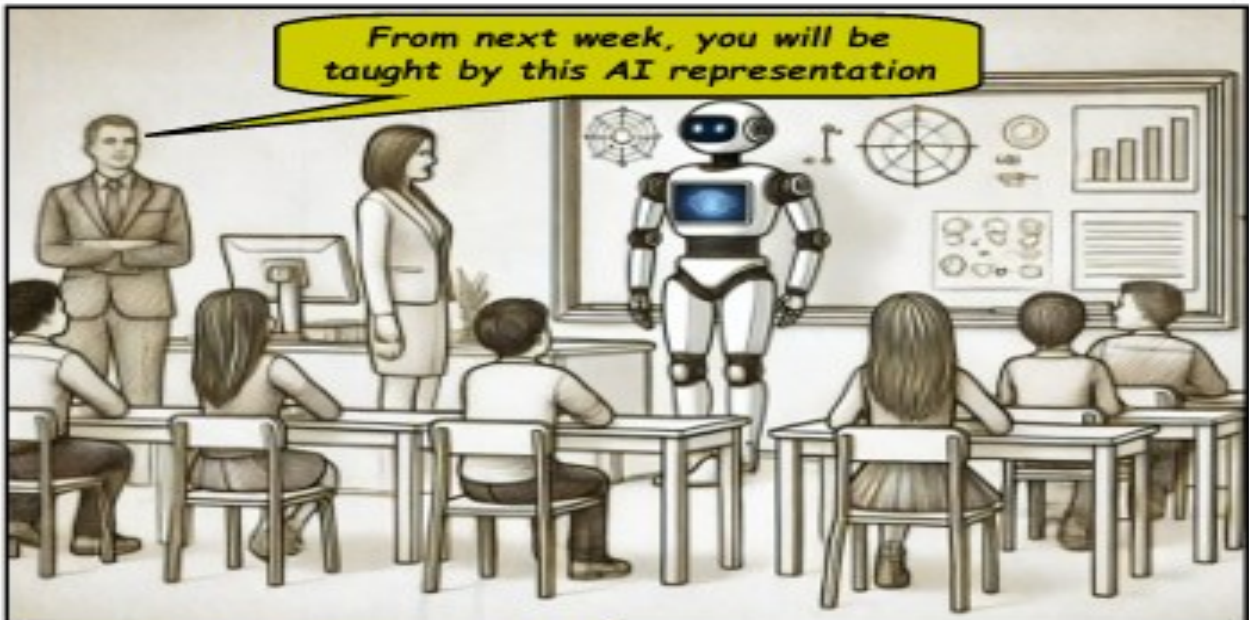


PTA and Community News



Friends of St Nicolas Church Autumn Taplow Talk

After a lifetime involved in schools, Jim Oliver reflects on how the nature of 'schooling' has changed and considers current opportunities and risks.



Tuesday, 6th November 2025

Join us at 7:00pm for coffee and dessert: the talk begins at 7:30pm

Tickets £10 available on The church website



Tickets are available via the Church website, please follow the link and if you have any problems, please let us know.

<https://st-nicolas-taplow.org/taplow-talks/>



PTA and Community News



PLAY. CREATE. BELONG.

MAIDENHEAD GIRLS RUGBY

**Are you an aspiring Red Rose?
Do you want to run like Kildunne?
Pass like Packer, or Kick like Kabeya?**

**Try girls rugby at Maidenhead this Autumn
All girls aged 6+ (year 2). Free trial sessions**

NEW*

U7s - U11s Girls only Training - 10 till 11 EVERY Sunday

**U12s - U18s Training - 18:15 EVERY Wednesday
& GAME DAY or morning training EVERY Sunday**

JOIN US TO HAVE FUN, MAKE FRIENDS AND BE ACTIVE

**wilson
partners.**

Contact maidenheadgirlsrugby@gmail.com