



St Nicolas' CE Combined School Newsletter

Living and learning together with God

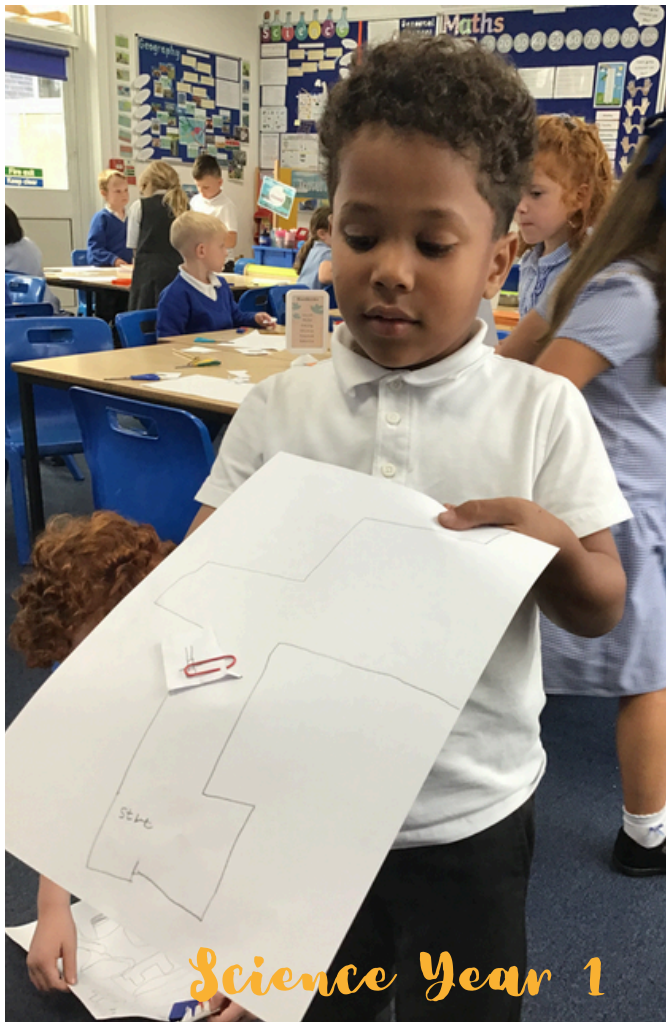
Friday 2nd October 2026

Well done Willow Class for a fantastic MacMillan Coffee Morning!



It's been a busy week in school, with a Wonderful Writing assembly, first team football practice, new parent tours, staff training and our Harvest Festival as well as lots of fun and learning. Read on to find out more...

Year 6 have been preparing for their residential trip to the River Dart in Devon - we wish them a safe and fun-packed adventure!



House Points

Jaguars	Pumas	Lions	Tigers
229	290	312	265

Well done Lions!

On the way to the Harvest Festival a child asked

"Does the church have air conditioning?"

Message from the DfE

"Is my child well enough for school?"

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=i5KxggkPTw>



Exciting news - Guitar lessons to start soon

We are excited to announce that we have found a guitar teacher who will be coming into school after half term to start guitar lessons, initially with KS2 pupils. We know that there were a lot of children who were very keen to start to learn the guitar and you can apply for lessons via the Bucks music website at **www.bucksmusic.org** (under the parents tab). We suggest that you apply for a group lesson. Children will be able to learn together and benefit from the shared experience.

Please register your interest as soon as possible via the website.



Year 5 Macmillan Coffee Morning

Year 5 would like to extend a heartfelt thank you for the wonderful cakes donated and to everyone who attended the Macmillan coffee morning. Your support truly makes a difference and has helped us raise an amazing **£603.85**.



"It really feels good raising money for charity because you know you are helping someone that you don't know." **Sophie**

"I liked that we got to help Macmillan Cancer support nurses because they do a great job supporting people with cancer." **Oliver**

"The cakes smelt really good." **Mia**

"I enjoyed seeing the smile on people's faces." **Lola H**



RE in the spotlight



Harvest Festival

A huge thank you to everyone for your thoughtful harvest donations of food for the Burnham Care and Share charity. We are also grateful for your kind money donations to Beautiful Gate orphanage in Lesotho. We are aware that some of you did not have cash with you at our Harvest Festival but wanted to make a donation. The UK bank account for Beautiful Gate is account number 13591568 sort code 60 04 53.

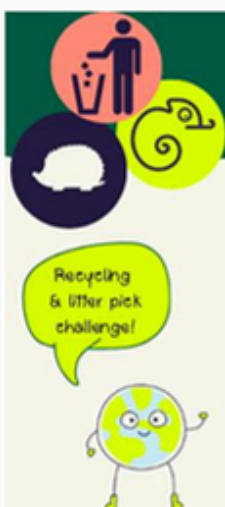
Well done to Year 4 who led our service so beautifully and to our Year 6 RE leaders who helped on the day.

Young Climate Warriors

Great news. Each person in England now produces about 6% less household waste than in 2020 – keep refusing, reducing, reusing, recycling and re-creating to keep it going down!

'Great Cable Challenge' ... it's amazing ... if every primary school pupil in the UK recycled just one cable, we could save over 20,000 kg of copper from going to landfill.

Every single piece of litter you can pick up (or prevent) can help wildlife. The RSPCA receive around 10 calls a day about animals affected by litter.



Head out on a litter hunt ... But why? But why?

Head to your park or playground with a grown-up and find at least 5 sneaky, cheeky pieces of rubbish that haven't made it to the bin ... and recycle them if you can.

But why? Being a Young Climate Warrior is about asking questions ... and being curious ... what's the reason to recycle ... why can't we leave the rubbish to rot in the hedgerow?

Picking up litter helps protect animals from getting hurt, and recycling it, rather than putting it in landfill, reduces greenhouse gas emissions, helping to combat climate change.



YOUNG CLIMATE WARRIORS

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

'The important thing is not to stop questioning. Curiosity has its own reason for existing.'
Albert Einstein



The BBC's 500 Word story competition is now open!

500 Words celebrates children's creativity and imagination, encouraging children from across the UK to create an original story in 500 words or fewer. There are two age categories: 5-7 and 8-11 year-olds.

Entries close at 9pm on Friday 6th November



The poster features a dark blue background with a large rainbow arching across the middle. At the top, the BBC logo is displayed next to a small rocket. The text '500 WORDS' is prominently shown in large, yellow, stylized letters. Below this, the text 'A fun, creative story writing competition. Opens for entries Tuesday 29 September – Friday 6 November 2026' is written in yellow. A speech bubble on the left says 'Prizes for the bronze, silver and gold winners!!'. On the right, a book icon says 'Write a STORY you would love to read'. A green tree icon indicates 'Ages 5 – 11'. At the bottom, two children are sitting on a large open book, writing. Various icons like a soccer ball, a diamond, a dinosaur, and a pencil are scattered around. A QR code is in the top right corner.

BBC

500 WORDS

A fun, creative story writing competition.
Opens for entries
Tuesday 29 September – Friday 6 November 2026

No need to worry about spelling,
punctuation or grammar!

Prizes for
the bronze, silver
and gold winners!!

Write a
STORY
you would
love to read

Ages
5 – 11

Find out more and enter at
bbc.co.uk/500words

BBC
BITESIZE
FOR TEACHERS



2026

Honouring Communities

Every October, Black History month, gives us an opportunity to look back, learn, to remember, and to celebrate people whose lives and achievements have help shape Britain.

In October 2026, we will be learning about ordinary, not necessarily famous black people, who have made a difference in their homes, schools, workplaces and neighbourhoods in the United Kingdom.

During Black History month we will be exploring what community is and what community means. What are the communities we belong to?

Our focus is about recognising our heritage as well as others but also about creating history around us right now, together honouring our communities and an understanding of belonging.



School Photographs

School photography preview slips have been sent home. Please scan the QR code to view and purchase. The deadline for free delivery is **Thursday 8th October.**



Free flu vaccination (nasal spray)

Friday 6th November

This year, children in EYFS to Y6 can get the free flu vaccine at school. Flu can make children very unwell and can cause chest infections, pneumonia, and ear infections. Flu and other breathing illnesses spread a lot in autumn and winter. The vaccine helps protect your child from catching flu and staying healthy during these months.

How do I provide Consent for my child to receive the vaccine?

Please take a few minutes to read the flu vaccination leaflet [Child flu vaccine - NHS](#). This provides helpful information about the flu vaccine, including why some children may need the injection instead of the nasal spray.

Please use the link below to complete the consent form as soon as possible, and no later than one full school day before the vaccination date.

Completing the form in good time helps us make sure your child can be offered their vaccination in school.

If your child is unable to have their vaccination in school, they may be able to attend one of our local community clinics instead.

1. Click the link <https://www.buckschildimmunisations.co.uk/Forms/Flu>

2. Enter the Unique School Code **EE138121**

3. Complete the form (one per child). Please complete even if you are DECLINING the vaccination.

You can find information about the flu vaccine and asthma, and what to do if you change your mind, below.

More details about all our vaccination programmes are at:

<http://www.buckshealthcare.nhs.uk/School-nursing/immunisations.htm>

If you need to contact us, please email: buc-tr.BucksChildImms@nhs.net

If you need help filling out the consent form, call the Immunisation Team on 01494 323000. We're happy to help!

Headteacher's Awards

Well done to everyone who received an award in celebration assembly today!

Chestnut: **Otilie** for showing bravery and confidence when taking food to the front of the church during the harvest festival. **Astrid** for always listening carefully during story times and showing enthusiasm afterwards to 'read' the story by herself.



Elm: **Scarlett** for careful formation and decoration of her clay tile. **Max C** for showing greater independence and enthusiasm for his learning, and even helping others.

Ash: **Betsy** for her amazing watercolour painting of the London skyline. **William** for noticing different patterns when counting in 2s, 5s and 10s.

Oak: **Zayn** for always listening to instructions, working hard and outstanding behaviour. **Hannah** for fabulous team work, challenging herself with her learning and an amazing effort in reading lessons analysing texts in detail.

Pine: **Hugo** for being engaged in English and maths and sharing lots of valuable information on science. **Rosie** for producing consistently excellent home learning.

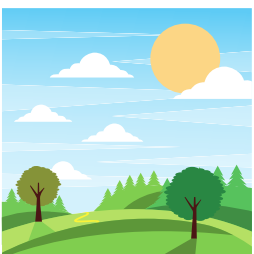
Willow: **Edith** for creative work, super listening and great concentration in all lessons. **Niall** for a detailed description and an imaginative mythical story that frightened Mrs Barnes

Fir: **Hazel C** for excellent focus and perseverance whilst conducting a science experiment in a small group. **Evie H** for super home reading every night.

And finally...

We wish you all a wonderful weekend and to take this opportunity to thank you for all your support throughout this week.

Ms Holmes and the staff





PTA and community news



SAVE THE DATE!



**Our Christmas Fair is on Saturday 21 November!
Bring the family along for some festive fun. We'd
love to see you there! ✨ More details coming
soon.**

Support St Nicolas' PTA on Your School Lottery
yourschoollottery.co.uk

JOIN OUR SCHOOL LOTTERY

Do something lovely for our school — and you could win too!

Every week, someone supporting our school wins a prize

£25,000 jackpot

THIS WEEK: SUPER DRAW
Win an iPhone

Join St Nicolas Church of England Combined School at Your School Lottery

Parents, carers, family & friends are all welcome

Every ticket helps support our school community

JOIN HERE:
www.yourschoollottery.co.uk/lottery/school/st-nicolas-church-of-england-combined-school

Small tickets. A big difference.



ST NICOLAS' CHURCH

Community Arts & Crafts Fair



CELEBRATING CREATIVITY, COMMUNITY AND LOCAL TALENT



SATURDAY
10TH OCTOBER
2026



12.00 pm
—
4.00 pm



St Nicolas' Church,
Taplow

Join us for a welcoming afternoon celebrating local artists, makers and craftspeople while helping to raise funds for St Nicolas' Church.

Discover artwork, photography, crafts and handmade creations from members of our congregation alongside local artists and makers.

Tea, coffee and homemade cakes will be available throughout the afternoon.

Everyone is warmly welcome. ♥



SHARE YOUR CREATIVITY

Whether you're an experienced artist or simply enjoy being creative, we'd love you to exhibit your work.

Display your work, offer it for sale, or simply share your creativity with our community.



ALL FORMS OF ART,
CRAFT & CREATIVE WORK
ARE WELCOME



Photography



Pottery



Textiles



Woodwork



Jewellery



Painting

All ages and abilities are welcome.



INTERESTED IN
EXHIBITING?

Contact:
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CELEBRATING CREATIVITY.
SUPPORTING OUR COMMUNITY.
RAISING FUNDS FOR ST NICOLAS' CHURCH.

