



St Nicolas' CE Combined School Newsletter

Living and learning together with God

Friday 21st November 2025



We would like to extend a big thank you to everyone who donated to the Poppy Appeal and to Dara and Matilda who visited classrooms to organise the collection and sale of poppies, wristbands and key tags so ably through the week.

We raised a fabulous **£503** for the Royal British Legion. Well done!



Children In Need



Thank you, School Council and everyone who donated.

We raised **£261.03** for Children In Need and had a lot of fun!



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School trips and residential – looking ahead

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.

The DfE 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.



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 £55 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 £190, and an adventure week at the River Dart in Devon for Year 6, which will cost £535.

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 call or email Ms Holmes and Ms Jones via the school office. **Thank you**



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Oak Class visit to Chiltern Open Air Museum

Beatrix – I loved our trip to Chiltern Open Air Museum. My favourite part was the Round house – when the door was shut it went completely dark!

Tristan – I loved the Chiltern Open Air museum because the activities were fantastic. The best bit was getting to set up a Stone Age camp.

Henry – I loved all of the school trip. I loved walking around and just looking at everything.



Anti-bullying poem

Orla wrote this acrostic poem for anti-bullying week as part of her '**Going the Extra Mile**' home learning .



Anti-bullying week poem

Kindness is a superpower

If only everyone would use it

No-one should put someone down

Differences make you unique- respect it don't abuse it

Nice words and encouragement can make someone's day

Everyone should give it a try

So next time someone's struggling

Sit with them, be a friend, don't just walk by.

By Orla



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Urgent Volunteer request

The Christmas Fair is tomorrow and the PTA need more volunteers to be able to run the fabulous activities and games that they have planned. If there aren't enough volunteers, we won't be able to run them all!

We ask all parents to volunteer a minimum 1 hour per year, so now is your opportunity to help out and make a difference!

Please volunteer using the sign up link below, or pledge your hour for the summer fair on Friday 19th June.

Volunteer sign-up: <https://volunteersignup.org/ATQWT>

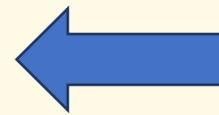
Pupil quote of the week

'I like courgettes; they taste like mushrooms!'

Y3 child at lunchtime following their vegetable-tasting in DT this week.

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 impressive **98.3%**

Netball match v Seer Green



2-2 draw

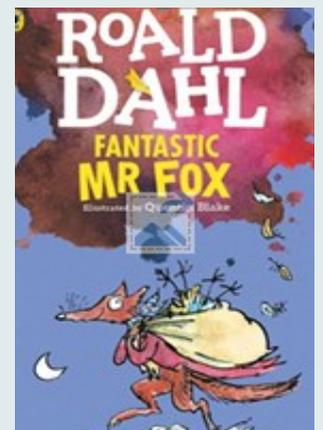
A well-played match in very chilly conditions!

Reading at St Nic's

'Fantastic Mr Fox,' by Roald Dahl

This book made me feel happy and sad. I think others should read it!

Finn O, Ash Class





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Headteacher Awards



Chestnut: **Filippos** for super trying during our writing activities.

Arthur for fantastic re-creation of Van Gogh's Starry Night.

Elm: **Macie** for her amazing kindness to others and being a fantastic Eco Representative for Elm Class. **William** for always putting his hand up to join in class discussions and always settling quickly to finish his work

Ash: **Yuvraj** for adding brilliant detail to his work when creating factual sentences about meerkats. **Finn O** for his great contributions to our discussions on fire engines, and successfully labelling the features of a fire engine.

Oak: **Billy** for taking on the challenge of trying to prove his answers in maths using more than one strategy. **Ines** for being a kind member of Oak class who always likes to help and look out for her friends.

Pine: **Hari** for his excellent progress in reading. **Robyn** for her fabulous work on Sikh symbols in RE

Willow: **Dolly-Belle** for excellent independent writing about 'The Fastest Boy in the World' and forces in science. **Naanaki** for maximum effort with the quality and presentation of her writing this week.

Fir: **Orla** for going the extra mile with homework and in class, embracing every opportunity to learn. **Elsie** for imagination and wonderfully descriptive vocabulary in her writing.

And finally...

We are looking forward to seeing you all at our Christmas Fair tomorrow. Thank you to the PTA who have been working so hard to make it magical; Year 6 who are running some of the games, and everyone who has offered to help. The school is already starting to look festive!



Have a happy weekend, **Ms Holmes and the staff team.**



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
Children's Crafts
NEW! - The Snow Globe
Selection of external stalls +
much much more...*

We can't wait to see you there!

*When you see this poster
please write your name down
on the back of the card so
we can contact you*



PTA and Community News

CHRISTMAS SING & CAKE

10.30am Friday 5th and 19th December
St Nicolas Church Taplow, SL6 0EX

Led by Sing Live Founder, Helen Styles
Pianist **Caroline Page**

Join us for one or both of our sessions for a joyful hour
of festive singing, community, and cake!

Everyone Can Sing!

Founded in 2024, Sing Live creates welcoming spaces
where people of all ages and abilities come together to
connect through music.

Tickets £10 per session
£18 for both sessions (in advance)
£12 on door

Scan to book tickets or find out more

singliveforlife.mystrikingly.com

