



St Nicholas C of E Primary School

Virtual School Newsletter

26th June 2020

Dear Parents,

I hope that you all continue to be in good health.

I hope you have all had the opportunity to enjoy the sun this week and and maybe see some of your extended family for the first time in months. I am certainly looking forward to having a drink in our village pub next weekend!

As I write this my door is open and the year 1 pupils are playing outside, occasionally it feels like normal but then I am reminded when one of the little ones has just said to another; 'please remember you mustn't touch me'. The children are a fine example to all of us as to how they are coping with the 'new normal'. They wipe down tables, stand apart and wait patiently whilst handwashing goes on, they are a credit to us all. Meanwhile those at home also continue to impress the standards of work we are seeing from some children have been outstanding. Many of the year 5 and 6 pupils join their teachers each morning for virtual school and I was delighted to see many of our year 4 pupils join Miss Hincliffe this morning. I have been so impressed with the mature way the children have approached this virtual world. I am also delighted that the children are so determined to conquer the nightmare that the internet is in our area, returning each day ever hopeful it will be better than the previous day—well done to everyone for this.

Although I still have no guidance from the Government regarding September we are pushing on with our plans assuming that all children will be returning and that we will be getting back to normal. All the staff here know that we will be working hard to catch the children up for their missed schooling. I know that you will all support us in this by ensuring pupils learn their spellings, tables, number bonds, complete their homework and read each night. These things have always been important but never more so than in the coming twelve months. As soon as I know what the guidance says I will write to you all. Next year there will be a change in where our year 6 pupils go on their residential. This is because PGL, who own Beamhouse were not prepared to pay back monies if the trip had to be cancelled. So next year we will be going to Heatree on Dartmoor. It is a beautiful outdoor pursuits centre but offers accommodation which means we are separate from any other school and they guarantee returning our money should we have to cancel due to a COVID outbreak.

This week the Governors agreed our new Personal, Social and Health Education policy, this can be found on our website. Next year we will continue to use Jigsaw which meets all of the government requirements. A further letter regarding this will be sent to families next week and teachers will answer any questions at your meet and greet in September.

Stay safe,
Best wishes,
Nicki

End of Term Tuesday 14th July.

In order to give **all** pupils the opportunity to say goodbye to their teacher from this year and hello to their new teacher the school year will end for pupils in Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 on Tuesday 14th July. For pupils of Keyworkers and the Midford Class term will end at 12noon on Friday 17th July. Details of the planned visits can be found on the final page. Please ensure that you arrive on time as we will not be able to admit pupils who arrive late.

Do you have friends who are thinking of moving to St Nicholas?

I have heard that there are a number of friends of parents out there who are thinking of moving to our school.

We are able to do visits to school with socially distanced protocols in place. If they are interested please ask them to call 01761 432101 to make an appointment. We are always really busy in September with new children starting, I already have a growing list of new children starting in September!

The forms to apply for an admission to a new school can be found at;

<https://www.bathnes.gov.uk/services/schools-colleges-and-learning/admissions-schools/changing-schoolscasual-admissions>

Instrumental and Vocal Lessons Keeping the Beat Going in Bath and North East Somerset

Over 400 children missing out on school-based instrumental and vocal lessons during the coronavirus crisis are carrying on playing & singing thanks to online tuition set up by Bath & North East Music Service in partnership with Musictutors.co.uk.

The Music Service team has arranged a safe, bespoke online teaching platform that allows pupils to enjoy lessons virtually with their usual tutor in real time.

Tuition is being offered to all pupils who were having one-to-one and small group lessons in the spring term with a Music Service tutor and any new students who wish to start learning an instrument. We hope to return to face-to-face lessons in September, but with the possibility of many schools ruling out visits from external teachers, now is a good time to book lessons and secure musical learning for your child in September. If your child is already having online lessons, we will presume that they will wish to continue in September. For a full list of fees for lessons, please view the Music Service website www.banesmusiconline.co.uk and click on COVID-19 guidance.

If your child is already receiving online lessons with us, you don't need to book again. You will receive an email in the near future asking you to register choices for future tuition, so please look out for that!

If your child was having lessons in term 4 (pre-lockdown) and is not receiving online lessons, or wishes to start learning an instrument as a new student, simply complete the form at the following SurveyMonkey link.: <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/BANESMSAutumnLessons2020>

School Uniform

Children will be expected to return in FULL school uniform in September.

Our school uniform is supplied by Norton Sports & Camping, 77 High Street, Midsomer Norton, BA3 2DE who, in normal circumstances would be more than happy to see you. However, during the current coronavirus crisis, there is a need to keep visits to the shop to a minimum and, therefore, we ask that you place your uniform orders directly with the shop (preferably) by email (nortonsportsandcamping@hotmail.com), alternatively by phone 01761 418972 or by post.

Please note that the shop is not likely to reopen until 15 June but orders can be placed at any time. To ensure that self-distancing rules are maintained, the changing room facilities at the shop will not be available, you are therefore asked to be as sure as possible on your sizing. Nevertheless, the opportunity to change items at a later date will be available.

Visits to school for pupils not currently attending will be as follows;

Current Year group	Date	Arrival time	Pick up time
Reception (Cam and Lox) Children's surnames beginning with A-H	Monday 13th July	10am	11am
Reception (Cam and Lox) Children's surnames beginning with I-Z	Monday 13th July	1.30pm	2.30pm
Year 1 Cam and Brue Children's surnames beginning with A-H	Tuesday 14th July	10am	11am
Year 1 Cam and Brue Children's surnames beginning with I-Z	Tuesday 14th July	1.30pm	2.30pm
Year 2 Dart Children's Surnames beginning with A to H	Wednesday 15th July	10am	11am
Year 2 Dart Children's Surnames beginning with I to Z	Wednesday 15th July	1.30	2.30
Year 3 Avon	Wednesday 15th July	10.30am	11.30am
Year 3 Kennet	Wednesday 15th July	2pm	3pm
Year 4 Mells Children's surnames beginning with A-H	Thursday 16th July	9.30am	10.30am
Year 4 Mells Children's surnames beginning with I-Z	Thursday 16th July	1.30pm	2.30pm
Year 5 Yeo Children's surnames beginning with A-H	Thursday 16th July	10am	11am
Year 5 Severn Children's surnames beginning with A-H	Thursday 16th July	11.30am	12.30pm
Year 5 Yeo Children's surnames beginning with I-Z	Thursday 16th July	1pm	2pm
Year 5 Severn Children's surnames beginning with I-Z	Thursday 16th July	1.30pm	2.30pm