



Saint Nicholas School

NEWSLETTER

Friday 22nd May 2015

LOWER SCHOOL UPDATE

Despite the extremes of weather, from hail to sunshine, we have had a fun-packed half term.

Butterflies have been hatched and placed in our eco garden, children across the Lower School have been inspired and their historical knowledge enriched by personal stories of VE day. We now have budding poets motivated by our visiting poet and the Year 3 and 4 pupils deserve praise for being great ambassadors for the school during our theatre trip to see Matilda. All topped by assessment week, the children are now deservedly looking forward to their holiday.

Next half term, we are off to a flying start with our summer poetry evening on Wednesday 3rd June. We are looking forward to taking advantage of our beautiful grounds as we welcome you to the poetry recital. Full details have been sent by Mrs Bedford, our Literacy Coordinator and Assistant Head. We do hope to see as many of you as possible and hope that the sun will be shining to allow you to picnic on the lawn.

Uniform

Thank you for your support over the last half term regarding uniform. The positive message of being

smart for school has filtered through and children have been well turned out. Please may I ask that blazers are cleaned over the half term in readiness for our summer presentations and assemblies.

A few reminders

Please take your children to be registered in the office if you are late to school (after 8.50am). Also should you require a meeting with a class teacher, please either email or leave a message with the office. Staff are very willing to meet but do need to agree when is a suitable and convenient time around their preparations for class and staff meetings.

Finally, for Year 3 to 5 parents, please ensure your children are picked up from under the sails and are escorted to your car to ensure they are kept safe.

Have a wonderful half term, temperatures looks set to be warmer!

Kind regards

Mrs Clements
Head of Lower School

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PRE-SCHOOL NEWS

Craig the school chef popped into pre-school on Tuesday to talk to the children about making healthy food choices.

We used our senses to explore some fruits and vegetables and then we tried the delicious fruit for our snack.

Our caterpillars have finally turned into butterflies and we have loved observing them in their butterfly net, we will soon be releasing them into the new school butterfly enclosure in the eco garden.

When we return after the half term our topic will be holidays.

REMINDER TO ALL LOWER SCHOOL CHILDREN AND PARENTS

The Lower School poetry evening will be held on Wednesday 3rd June from 4.00 and 5.30pm. This will be on the lawns at the back of Hillingdon House (or in the theatre if wet outside).

All Lower School children are expected to attend. Parents, grandparents and other family members are welcome to join us; bring a picnic if you wish.

EYFS, Year 1 and Year 2 will finish at 4.30pm that day whilst Year 3, Year 4 and Year 5 children will go home at 5.30pm.

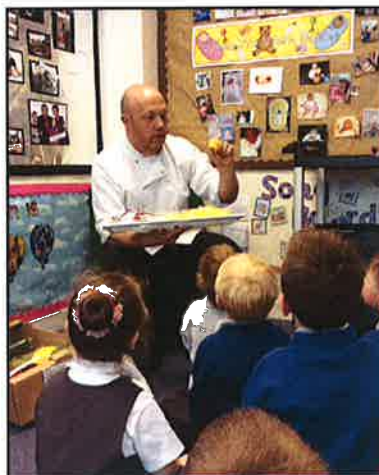


RECEPTION NEWS

This week in Reception we have been learning about growing, with a focus on Jasper's Beanstalk.

We all planted 'magic beans' and made our very own seed packets.

During Welly Wednesday we looked at what plants need to grow and talked about the need to keep weeds and slugs away from our plants in the eco garden area. We also spotted a wet frog in the pond!



BUTTERFLIES!

Year 5 have been watching their pet caterpillars as they have made their cocoons and finally this week as they emerged as butterflies.

EYFS have also been watching the progress of our caterpillars and came out to watch the butterflies being released.

Many thanks to Mr Jackson who has worked hard to build the new netted butterfly garden in the eco area and has worked with Year 5 children to prepare for the arrival of the butterflies.

A special thanks also to the Friends who have provided the materials and plants.

We hope many generations of Saint Nicholas staff and children will enjoy the peace and tranquillity of the beautiful butterfly garden.

LOWER SCHOOL - SUMMER TERM DATES	
Mon 1st June	Return to school
Tues 2nd June	U9/U11 tennis festival
Wed 3rd June	Lower School poetry evening, back lawn Hillingdon House
Thurs 4th June	Rotary Young Chef Competition
Fri 5th June	Friends' Father's Day Gift Sale – 9am to 12.30pm Year 1 Sea Life Southend trip
Mon 8th June	Induction session 1 for new Reception pupils (Intro to Parents - PM) ISA Junior Athletics (A) Garon Park, Years 3 to 6
Tues 9th - Fri 12th June	Year 5 Bikeability
Wed 10th June	Year 3 Assembly - Theatre
Fri 12th June	Year 2 trip to Colchester Zoo Reports issued to parents
Sat 13th June	Friends' Summer Fayre
Mon 15th June	800th anniversary of Magna Carta (1215) Induction session 2 for new Reception pupils (PM) National Athletics, (A) Alexander Stadium, Birmingham, 12.30pm to 6pm – qualifiers only
Thurs 18th June	Lower School Parents Evening, Mountbatten Hall – 4pm to 7.30pm Year 5 to 6 rounders
Mon 22nd June	Induction session 3 for new Reception pupils
Tues 23rd June	U11 & U 13 East Anglia Tennis, (A) Garon Park, Southend Harlow Schools' Partnership – Year 5 & 6 rounders
Wed 24th June	Year 5 English end of Lower School trip to Harry Potter film studios Year 4 Duxford trip
Thurs 25th June	Rounders Finals – Years 5 and 6 - TBC Pre-school ballet performance - 10.00am - 11.15am
Fri 26th June	Pre-school trip to Paradise Wildlife Park Year 3 Henry Moore Trip
Mon 29th June	Year 1 & 2 Mini-Olympics – Church Langley
Tues 30th June	Onatti Theatre Group to perform French play to KS2 – 2.20pm to 3.20pm
Wed 1st July	Moving up afternoon for incoming Reception pupils (Session 4) to Year 4 pupils & Induction day for Year 5 pupils and external Year 7 pupils.
Thurs 2nd July	Sports Day
Sat 4th July	Speech Day
Monday 6th July	Final Assembly for Year 5
Tuesday 7th July	Sports Day
Wed 8th July	Break up for Summer Holidays

WE NEED YOUR OLD POTS AND PANS

If you have any old pots, pans, muffin trays, colanders or tins please pass them on to Mrs Shubrook in the Reception class for the new musical area in the secret garden.

Mrs Shubrook is also on the look out for any tarpaulin in order to create a den for the children.

Thank you!



SPORTS REPORT



YEAR 8 BOYS SERVE UP AT NATIONAL TENNIS CENTRE

Well done to Matthew, Conrad, Charlie and Henry who represented Saint Nicholas as the only East Anglian team at the prestigious National Tennis Centre.

The boys started the tournament in pairs and lost narrowly in the Plate final to Shoreham College.

Indoors, the singles tournament split the boys into four separate groups. Competition was tough with talented, dedicated pupils who showed great ability. Our boys showed incredible determination and serving technique, whilst former professional Jeremy Bates, coached aspiring elite players on the courts alongside.

Another great tennis experience for Saint Nicholas pupils at another National ISA Sporting event.

Could they be our future elite sports stars?!

Well done boys!

**ROUNDERS FIXTURES
WEEK COMMENCING 1ST
JUNE**

Wednesday 3rd June
Yr 6-8 girls rounders vs Burnt Mill
(league)
Home game - sports field
4-5pm

BOYS YEARS 6 - 11 PE AND YEARS 3 - 11 GAMES: WHITE KIT RULES

After half term all boys will require white kit to continue their athletics and tennis involvement in Games.

Years 6 - 11 will be involved in hitting and fielding activities including rounders and cricket.

Tracksuits continue to be encouraged along with a spare water bottle to cope with differing temperature conditions.



ATHLETICS UPDATE

Both junior & senior pupils took to the Mark Hall Sport Centre running track & field events this week. They took the opportunity to compete against the best Harlow school athletes, all in preparation for the ISA Regional athletics competitions straight after half term.

Forthcoming events:

Senior ISA Athletics: Cambridge 2nd June
10am

Junior ISA Athletics: Southend 8th June
10am

National Athletics (Years 4-11) at
Alexander Stadium, Birmingham. From
12.30pm on 22nd June.

Seniors (Years 7-11) at Cambridge
University Athletics Track from 11.00am
on 2nd July.

Juniors (Years 4-6) at Garon's Park
Southend from 10.30am on 8th July.

SPORTS REPORT

SPONGEBALL SQUAREPANTS

(YEAR 8-10 BOYS TENNIS)

Wet weather severely affected the Senior boys tennis tournament on Thursday 14th May.

Never ones to cancel, an indoor spongeball competition was arranged instead. Overcoming their fear of being patronised the boys played with great determination against each other in 7 matches.

Fred 7
Dennis 5
Conrad 5
Henry 4
Myles 3
Matthew 2
Josh H 2
Josh F kept improving with a smile!

YEAR 3 GIRLS TENNIS FESTIVAL

Well done to all girls who played each other, with great assistance from Isabella, Sophie, Kate and Emily (Year 8) fantastically supported by Mrs 'Venus' Hill in their tennis festival on Monday 18th.

Our festivals are in keeping with the Sport England initiatives at the appropriate age groups to increase the number of children involved in competitive sport.

Results are not recorded. All pupils are nevertheless encouraged to do their very best.

This may appear to dilute the traditional view of competition, but keeps all players, especially at an early age, involved and improving.

GIRLS ACTIVITIES SUMMER TERM 2 (AFTER HALF TERM)

	Girls Games	Girls PE
Year 3	Athletics/ Striking & fielding	Swimming activities
Year 4	Athletics/Tennis	Swimming activities
Year 5	Athletics/Tennis	Swimming activities
Year 6	Athletics/Tennis	Swimming - personal survival
Year 7	Athletics/Tennis	Swimming - personal survival
Year 8	Athletics/ Tennis/Kwik cricket	Swimming - personal survival
Year 9	Athletics/ Tennis/Kwik cricket	Swimming - personal survival
Year 10	Athletics/Tennis	Swimming - water polo
Year 11	Exam study leave	Exam study leave

SPORTS DATES

Sports Day Thursday 2nd July

Don't forget your picnic hamper or come along and purchase food & drinks on the day provided by our catering staff.

Henry Owen memorial football match Friday 3rd July 4pm-6:30pm

Parents are most welcome to join in and play with staff members against past pupils. The leavers (current Year 11 pupils) will also be challenging the staff team. A great charity event.

LUNCHTIME TENNIS

Lunchtime tennis club continues for all Middle and Upper school pupils on the courts. Further tennis, table tennis and athletic fixture opportunities for selected boys will continue.

WELL DONE, FREDDIE!

Congratulations
to Year 10 pupil,
Freddie Smith who
raised a fantastic £118
for Edie's Butterfly
Appeal through a very
tasty biscuit sale.

SCHOOL PRODUCTION REQUESTS

Patchwork quilts
Quilts
Cotton material for bunting.

The quilts will be used outside so they
must be old (no family heirlooms!) as
they may get wet or muddy.
Donations can be dropped in to the
office or the theatre.
Thank you!

EXTRA MATHS GCSE REVISION SESSIONS

Mrs Copnell
Tuesday 2nd June, periods 1-4.

Miss Castro
Friday 5th June, periods 11-13.

All Year 11 students are
welcome to attend for last
minute revision.

PARENTS OF LOWER SCHOOL CHILDREN

A polite reminder that Reception
- Year 2 children are to be collect-
ed from outside their classrooms
at 3.30pm and Years 3 - 5 are
to be collected from under the
sails adjacent to the car park at
3.45pm.

Children are not permitted to
use the playground equipment
before or after school for safety
reasons.

Children are not permitted to
walk across the car park on their
own but must be collected by
their parents where a member of
staff is on duty.

Thank you for your cooperation in
these matters.

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