



St Nicholas C.E Primary Academy

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Proud member of the Infinity Academies Trust
"Let your light shine." Matthew 5:14-16



Infinity Academies Trust

Ready to learn; Prepared to flourish.

Tuesday 2nd November 2021

Term 2 Welcome

Dear Families,

Welcome back to another amazing term which is jam-packed with exciting opportunities for your children to learn in creative and engaging ways so that they fulfil their potential and "Let their light shine"!

Staffing Updates

I am delighted to welcome Mrs Bartram to our school family. Mrs Bartram will take on the role of full time Administrator in the Main Office, working alongside Mrs Waters to ensure that our families, children and wider community receive the very best service from the moment they first make contact with our school. Mrs Bartram has a long history of working in schools; she is keen to shine her light on helping families to improve regular attendance at school so that all children are prepared for the next phase of their education.

We also welcome Ms Hughes to our incredible team of Teaching Assistants following Mrs Stukins' successful appointment to Bridge House. Ms Hughes is a familiar face around school thanks to her work within the Elite Sports Academy, so many children already have a great relationship with her. Ms Hughes will be based primarily in Apostles Class (Y2) but we will also use her expertise in the world of sports more widely across the whole school so that more opportunities are open to a greater number of children, more of the time. We are thrilled Ms Hughes chose our school family to become a part of and I know you will join me in welcoming her.

Miss Holman joined the Teaching Assistant team part way through Term 1 and although much of Miss Holman's work so far has been based in Prophets Class (Y6), the long-term plan is for Miss Holman to run a hub where children who join our school with little-or-no English, can quickly begin accessing Phonics so that they are able to join the provision in their chronological class. Miss Holman is an absolute asset to our school family who is already spreading a little sparkle wherever she goes! I am certain Miss Holman would welcome any questions you may have about how to most effectively settle children into school where English is being taught as a foreign language so please do not hesitate to contact her.

Every Monday, Mr Slater (who is the Infinity Academies Trust Teaching and Learning Lead) will be joining our staff team to ensure that targeted intervention is enabling all children to flourish. Mr Slater has a particular interest in evaluating the quality of teaching and learning in Key Stage 2 and is a very accomplished teacher. Mr Slater's passion is the teaching of Reading, Writing and Spelling/ Punctuation/ Grammar so he will become a familiar part of the teaching teams across Key Stage 2 (Disciples, Pilgrims, Saints, Prophets) each week.

Illness

Sadly, Mrs Tory is absent due to illness but she is due to return on Wednesday 10th November. In order to provide consistency and routine in Noah's Ark, we have arranged for a supply teacher called Ms Cuthbert, to cover this absence. Miss Featherstone will continue to support the teaching and learning in this class so the children do not feel there is any difference in provision. If you have any questions or queries about how to support your child's learning whilst Mrs Tory is absent, please do not hesitate to contact me or Mr Bell – simply catch us on the gate in the morning or afternoon, make a call to the Main Office on 01205 363 210 or check out the Noah's Ark class page on our school website: <https://www.bostonstnicholas.co.uk/autumn-term-2-1/>

As communicated on the last day of Term 1, Mrs Dobbs' absence will continue to be covered by Mrs Toyne who is an incredible teacher who has already started the term off with high expectations and an exciting topic plan which will cover both World War 1 and World War 2. Mrs Toyne already knows the Saints Class children really well and she will be on hand at the start and end of each day if you have any questions or if you require any support – please feel free to chat with her. Mrs Dougill will continue as the Saints Class teacher every Thursday afternoon.

Covid-19

Please remember to be vigilant for the main symptoms of the Covid-19 virus:

- a high temperature
- a new, continuous cough
- you've lost your sense of smell or taste or your sense of smell/ taste has changed

If your child displays any of these, **even if mild**, then they should stay at home and you should book them a PCR test as soon as possible. For more information about how to book a free PCR test, please visit: <https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test>

Which class do all of the adults in school support?

We all understand the huge impact that Remote Learning and two separate lockdowns has had on everyone, especially on the learning journey of our children. In order to provide the highest levels of support and intervention across the school we aim to appoint only the very best members of staff! In addition to this, we deploy additional, highly-qualified teaching assistants to the year groups where their skills are best-matched to the needs of the children in that class. Although things often change based on the needs of our children, our current staffing structure looks like this:

Class	Year Group	Class Teacher	Teaching Assistant	Additional Adults
Noah's Ark	EYFS	Mrs Tory	Miss Featherstone	Mrs Stroud 1:1 Mrs Manning
Gospels	Y1	Miss A. Smith	Miss Ingamells	
Apostles	Y2	Mrs MacRae	Miss Burt Ms Hughes	Mrs Chatterton
Disciples	Y3	Mr Lee	Mrs Clarke (am only)	Mr Slater (Monday only)
Pilgrims	Y4	Mrs L. Smith Mrs Dougill (Thursday am)	Mrs Harrison	Mr Rowlatt
Saints	Y5	Mrs Toyne Mrs Dougill (Thursday pm)	Miss Allen (am only)	Miss R. Taylor Mr Slater (Monday only) Mr Bell (small groups)
Prophets	Y6	Miss P. Taylor Miss Allen (Thursday pm)	Miss Holman	Mr Slater (Monday only) Mr Bell (small groups)

We keep this under constant review to ensure all children have the best learning experiences.

Miss Allen and Mrs Clarke are HLTAs (Higher Level Teaching Assistants who are qualified to teach full classes) who work with every class in school across the week providing amazing opportunities in Art, Music, RSHE and DT! In the mornings, they both support different class teachers to deliver high quality learning opportunities to all children and in the afternoons, they are the cover teachers.

Below is an overview of where Miss Allen and Mrs Clarke will be teaching each afternoon:

	Monday Afternoon	Tuesday Afternoon	Wednesday Afternoon	Thursday Afternoon	Friday Afternoon
Miss Allen	Y1/ Y2	Y3/Y4	Y5/Y6	Y6	EYFS
Mrs Clarke	Y1/ Y2	Y3/Y4	Y5/Y6	Y1	Y2 and Y3 alternate weeks

Important Dates

Make sure you stay up to speed with important term dates by using the calendar on the school website which will 'talk' to the calendar on your mobile phone! <https://www.bostonstnicholas.co.uk/diary/grid/2021/11/>

NOVEMBER	
Monday 1st	Term 2 starts
Monday 8 th	Year 6 start swimming lessons
Wednesday 10 th	Noah's Ark, Gospels & Apostles classes visiting St Nicholas Church Volunteers to help walk to and from the Church needed – please speak to your child's class teacher if you are willing to do this
Thursday 11 th	Disciples and Pilgrims Classes visiting St Nicholas Church Volunteers to help walk to and from the Church needed – please speak to your child's class teacher if you are willing to do this
Thursday 11 th	Willoughby Foods will have a demo-stall available for families to enjoy taking part in taste-testing at the end of the school day
Monday 15 th	Odd sock day in support of Anti-Bullying week
Monday 15 th	Saints and Prophets Classes visiting St Nicholas Church Volunteers to help walk to and from the Church needed – please speak to your child's class teacher if you are willing to do this
Friday 19 th	Children in Need non-uniform day (wear something spotty or yellow if you have them)
Friday 26th	SCHOOL CLOSED FOR WHOLE STAFF TRAINING DAY
Monday 29 th	EYFS Bike-ability begins
DECEMBER	
Monday 6 th	St Nicholas Day – Father John leading celebrations in school
Friday 10 th	After school clubs end
Monday 13 th	10:30 – 11:30am Noah's Ark, Gospels & Apostles Christingle in St Nicholas Church Volunteers to help walk to and from the Church needed – please speak to your child's class teacher if you are willing to do this
Monday 13 th	1:30-2:30pm Disciples, Pilgrims, Saints & Prophets Christingle in St Nicholas Church Volunteers to help walk to and from the Church needed – please speak to your child's class teacher if you are willing to do this
Tuesday 14 th	1:30pm Noah's Ark, Gospels & Apostles Nativity
Tuesday 14 th	5:00pm Noah's Ark, Gospels & Apostles Nativity
Thursday 16 th	3:30pm Carols around the Christmas Tree with hot chocolate & dancing
Friday 17 th	Christmas Jumper Day Class Christmas Party Day LAST DAY OF TERM 2
JANUARY	
Tuesday 4 th	Term 3 starts

New Parent App

Last term, we sent details home which contained the unique code required to get all registered 'First Contacts' access to our new parent app called 'ScholarPack Parent App'.



This new app will replace the old Parent Hub app. The Parent Hub app should be deleted because it is no longer in use.

If you have not yet got this free app downloaded, please speak to your child's class teacher or to the Main Office so that they can re-issue you with your set-up codes. It's really important that all families have access to this as it will be the main point of communication between home and school. 'Contact 2' codes can be provided upon request.

We are aiming to be 100% paper-free before the Christmas holidays!

PE Uniform

Mr Lee is continuing to lead a campaign to ensure that when children attend school in their PE Kit it is shown the same value as our day-to-day 'blue jumper' uniform. Mr Lee has ensured that our PE Uniform Policy is based on items that are all cost-effective and easy to obtain; he will be working tirelessly to make sure that everyone – including staff - is wearing the agreed PE uniform.



Our whole school community understands the pride which comes when a 'team kit' is worn. In order to further encourage a sense of unity, teamsmanship and family, Mr Lee will be ambitious in ensuring that every member of St Nicholas CE Primary Academy is wearing the correct PE Uniform!

If you have any trouble finding or affording the correct PE uniform, please chat to me, Mr Lee or Mr Bell because there may be ways school can help!

Homework

In a move to focus on the mental health and wellbeing of our entire St Nicholas community (including the adults at home), we have made the decision NOT to set any formal homework. Instead, each class will receive a weekly challenge in Maths, Spelling and Reading. This will involve using amazing interactive games like TT Rockstars, Nessy and Phonics Play. Our motivation here is to encourage a love of learning rather than activities which simply create tension and stress for all involved!

There SO many exciting things happening within our school and across Infinity Academies Trust, please keep up to speed with these and get involved by following us on Twitter: [@BostonStNic](#) or [@InfinityAcad](#), by accessing our website: www.bostonstnicholas.co.uk and saving it to your favourites and by downloading the [ScholarPack Parent App](#).

Thank you for the incredible levels of continued support you are offering to our staff team – it makes a HUGE difference to how brightly we are **all** able to let our lights shine!

Yours sincerely,

Mrs F. Booth
Head Teacher

