

St Nicholas Catholic Primary School

'Love one another as I have loved you'



Headteacher: Mrs J. Burns BA QTS (Hons) NPQH
Address: Oakwood Lane, Leeds, West Yorkshire, LS9 6QY
Telephone: 01132 930 318
Email: schooloffice@stnicholasprimaryleeds.org.uk
Website: www.stnicholasprimaryleeds.org.uk
Instagram: @stnicholasleeds

Newsletter 1

Thursday 3 September 2026

OUR VIRTUE FOR THE TERM: RESPECT & COURTESY

As we start this new year together, we hold on to treating everyone with respect - trusting in new beginnings, new friendships and new learning ahead.

Dear Parents, Carers and Guardians

What a joy it is to welcome you all back for the start of another school year. We hope the summer break gave your family some time to rest, to play and to spend precious time together, and we say a heartfelt prayer of thanks for the gift of a brand-new year at St Nicholas. The children have returned to us happy, healthy and clearly excited for what lies ahead – it has been wonderful to see so many smiling faces, old and new, back on our playground.

A very warm welcome to every new family joining our St Nicholas community this term, especially our newest Reception children and anyone joining us partway through their primary years. You are now part of our school family, and we are here to help you settle in, so please do come and speak to us if there is ever anything you need. We also send our love and prayers to last year's Year 6 pupils, who are now beginning an exciting new chapter at secondary school. Wherever they have gone, they take a little piece of St Nicholas with them, and we could not be prouder of the young people they have become.

CELEBRATING OUR FORMER PUPILS

Congratulations to all of our former pupils who received their GCSE and A Level results this summer! We are so proud of everything they have gone on to achieve, and it is a wonderful reminder that the foundations we build together here at St Nicholas – in faith, in curiosity and in kindness – stay with our children long after they leave us.

Key Dates – Autumn 1

September 2026

Tue 1 – Wed 2 Sept	Training Days (school closed to pupils)
Thu 3 Sept	Children's first day back

Mon 7 Sept	Start of Year Mass – 9:15am
Wed 9 Sept	High School Transfer Forms Session – 2:30pm
Thu 10 – Fri 11 Sept	Year 4 trip to Herd Farm
Tue 15 Sept	High School Transfer Forms Session – 9:10am
Wed 16 Sept	PGL Parents' Meeting
Thu 17 Sept	Mindmate Assemblies
Wed 23 Sept	Buddy Assembly
Fri 25 Sept	Macmillan Coffee Morning
Tue 29 Sept	Year 6 PGL Residential begins
October 2026	
Thu 1 – Fri 2 Oct	Year 6 PGL Residential continues
Tue 6 Oct	Individual School Photographs
Thu 8 Oct	Harvest Assembly
Tue 13 Oct	Parents' Evening
Wed 14 Oct	Parents' Evening
Fri 16 Oct	Northern Ballet Workshops
Fri 23 Oct	School closes for half term
Tue 3 Nov	School reopens

Reminders & Key Information

- **PE Kits & Indoor Shoes** – Please make sure your child brings pumps and a full PE kit into school, with every item clearly named.
- **Attendance & Absence** – If your child is unwell, please call the office before 9:00am on 0113 293 0318 or email schooloffice@stnicholasprimaryleeds.org.uk – this will count as your written absence note. If we haven't heard from you, we will follow up with a text.
- **Weather-Ready Clothing** – Children play outside at break and lunch, even in light rain, so please send your child in with a coat every day, adding hats and gloves as the weather turns colder.
- **The Hive: Breakfast & Afterschool Club** – Please contact the school office for more details or to book a place. (There is a fee for The Hive)
- **Child Protection & Safeguarding** – Our safeguarding leads are Mrs Burns (Headteacher), Mrs Fox, Mrs Doherty, Miss McAndrew, Miss Pearson and Miss McGoldrick. Please contact us straight away if you ever have a concern about a child's welfare.

Prayer Intentions

"Do not worry about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition... present your requests to God." (Philippians 4:6)

At St Nicholas, we value taking time to pray, reflect and be still. We warmly invite you to share your prayer intentions with our school community by scanning the QR code below. Every intention will be placed in our Prayer Intention Box and prayed for during our daily Celebration of the Word.



- **Walking Home** – With parental consent, children in Year 5 and Year 6 may walk home alone. A permission letter will be sent home for you to sign and return if this applies to your child.
- **Contact Information** – Please let the office know as soon as possible if your phone number, email address or home address changes, so we can always reach you when needed.
- **Milk** – Available to all children from Reception to Year 6. If you haven't yet signed up, forms are available from the school office.
- **ParentPay** – St Nicholas is a cashless school, so all payments for trips, dinners and other events must be made through ParentPay. If you need help setting up your account, please contact Miss Musson in the office.
- **Photo Permissions** – We will continue to use the permission forms already on file from last year. Please let the school office know if anything has changed for your child.
- **School Lunches** – Our meals meet national nutritional standards and run on a two-week rotating menu, available on the school website. All KS1 children receive a free school meal; for KS2, the current charge is £2.95 per day/£14.75 per week.
- We also ask parents and carers to take the same care when preparing packed lunches. Grapes, cherry tomatoes and other small round fruits should never be sent into school whole and should be halved lengthways, with stones, pips and seeds removed where necessary. Packed lunches should provide a healthy, balanced meal and must be completely nut-free, including foods containing nuts, as we have children in school with allergies. Thank you for helping us to keep all of our children safe and healthy.
- **Breaktime Snacks and Packed Lunches** - A reminder that children should bring fruit only for their breaktime snack. Fruit must be prepared safely before coming to school: any fruit that could present a choking risk should be chopped appropriately and any stones, pips or seeds removed. For example, grapes and cherry tomatoes should be cut lengthways into halves or quarters, and other fruits should be cut into suitable, manageable pieces. No other snacks should be brought into school for breaktime unless this has been specifically agreed as part of a child's individual healthcare plan.
- **Uniform & Lost Property** – The children have looked fantastic in their uniforms – thank you for your support with this! Please ensure everything is clearly labelled, and speak to your child's class teacher if anything goes missing.

A Prayer for the New School Year

Loving Father,

Bless our school family as we begin this new year together.

Give us hope in new beginnings, courage to try new things, and kindness in all that we do.

Help us to live out our school motto each day – to love one another as You have loved us.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

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Amen.

We would all like to offer our congratulations to Miss Pearson who got married in the summer, she will now be called Mrs Medley. We wish them both a long and happy marriage.

Thank you, as ever, for your continued support and partnership – together we make St Nicholas such a special place to learn and grow. We are looking forward to a wonderful year ahead.

With warm regards and every blessing,

Mrs Burns

Headteacher

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