



ST. NICHOLAS NEWS

DECEMBER 2009



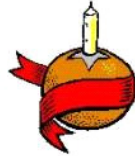
"St Nicholas is an outstanding Church of England School with a very distinctive Christian ethos." (Diocesan Inspection 2008)

Collective Worship Theme

We are now on the run up to Christmas and our Collective Worship theme is the theme of Advent which describes the period of waiting in anticipation for the birth of the Messiah, Jesus. There are activities for Advent on our school website.

Christingle Service

We are holding our annual Christingle Service at St Christopher's Church on Hawes-Side Lane on Monday 14th December. The service starts at 6:30pm and is usually about 40 minutes long. Please come and join us and get your Christmas off to a magical start!



Email Addresses

We now have a group of around 30 parents who receive advance notice of events and newsletters and who are asked to comment on things which the school is looking to implement. All of this contact is via email. If you would like to be part of this growing group, all you need to do is forward your email address to school and I will enter you onto this contact list. No-one other than the school will contact you as the list stays with Mr Mellor.



Respect for Local Residents

We have been told by local residents that there are still some parents blocking the driveways of local residents. Can I ask that if you are using local side streets that you give consideration to the rights of others who are our neighbours.

Unclaimed Christmas Fair Raffle Prizes

A huge thank you to all who helped and participated in the Christmas Fair. It was a big success with an estimated £2,000 being taken on the day.

There were a few unclaimed raffle prizes at the Christmas Fair. The details are below. We will need to check your raffle ticket number and the serial number on the ticket when you bring it to school.

Bathtime collection:	Ticket 26 serial number 724322
Koko Chocolates:	Ticket 97 s/n 721867
Cuddly Polar Bear:	Ticket 99 s/n 724322
Black Magic:	Ticket 91 s/n 721867
£30 voucher for Hollyacres Cat Hotel:	Ticket 203 s/n 721867
Car Wash Gift Voucher:	Ticket 247 s/n 721867
Tin of Biscuits:	Ticket 227 s/n 721867
Bendicks Chocolates:	Ticket 183 s/n 721867
Roses Chocolates:	Ticket 168 s/n 721867

There was also a grey scarf left over a door at the end.

If it belongs to you, you can claim it from the school office.



Keeping Your Children Safe Online

We ran a session for parents about how to ensure your child is safe online at home, last week and it has received rave reviews, with parents who attended, shocked at how easily undesirables on the net can access your children. I even received a letter from one parent which advised all parents to book a place on the course. The session lasts about 40 minutes but until you have attended this course your child may be at risk.

The next session is on 20th January 2010 from 2:30pm.

Attendance

Attendance for the school is still a concern and if we were inspected tomorrow we would be deemed to have an unsatisfactory attendance rate. We will therefore be pinpointing persistent absentees after Christmas with a view to taking further measures to improve attendance.

Questionnaire Responses

Many thanks to everyone who responded to the questionnaire we sent home recently. There has been a sizeable return and we will be using the information to help us with our School Improvement Plan.

Blogging!

We now have a school blog set up from our school website and I would encourage parents to use it to share their thoughts about all sorts of issues. A couple of ground rules though!

- 1) Keep the issues generic and don't specify individuals names as this could lead to all sorts of legal things!
- 2) All items are moderated by the school but we are not averse to constructive criticism or good ideas!
- 3) Any specific issues should be addressed directly to Mr Mellor via the school email address.

Hollywood on Ice show

Some of our talented children are taking part in the Hollywood On Ice show at the Pleasure Beach Arena on 21st December to 2nd January. If you would like tickets please contact: 0871 222 9090. We are not selling tickets from school for this event.

Want help to stop smoking?

Want a health check after Christmas?

Our School Nursing Adviser, Andrea, is running two health check sessions for parents in January, so that parents/ grandparents can have their blood pressure and various other tests done and receive advice as to how to stop smoking. You can even have your lung age assessed! The dates and times are 12th and 14th January from 3pm until 4pm. If this proves successful we could run more sessions like this. The sessions are voluntary and nothing would be recorded or placed on your medical record.

Dates for the term ahead.....

9th December - 2:30pm - Infant Nativity Performance

10th December - 6:30pm - Infant Nativity Performance

14th December - Christingle Service at St Christopher's Church
6:30pm.

15th December - Junior Disco in the hall 2pm

16th December - Infant Party 2pm

17th December - School Closes for the Christmas holidays at
2:15pm.

----- HAPPY NEW YEAR! -----

Wednesday 6th January - School re-opens at 8:55am.

Friday 15th January - 3AD class assembly (parents welcome)

Everyone at school wishes you and yours a very Happy Christmas!