



# St Nicholas' CE (VA) Primary School

*Learn, Achieve, Grow: Together*

**Term 2    Christian Value is: Peace    Big Idea is: Spiritual**



**Friday 3rd November 2023**

**Issue 5**

This term in collective worship we will be thinking about Peace and what that means to us. We will think about the benefits of peace and how it feels to be peaceful in our minds and bodies. In listening to the stories of Abraham and Lott from the Bible we are reminded of the consequence of losing peace in our lives and the impact of conflict. From next week children will have the opportunity to buy poppies and other merchandise to help support the Royal British Legion and to remember all those who have fought in wars so that we can live lives of peace today. The poppy remains, after 100 years, a humble, poignant symbol of Remembrance and hope.

Next **Friday 10th November at 10:45am** we will be celebrating with a **Remembrance service** in school which all of our parents are invited to, **particularly our Year 6 parents and our military families**. Year 6 are planning and leading the service for us and two of our talented musicians are busy practising **The Last Post**.



## Admissions:

**We continue to do tours for new Reception intake 2025, see the admission page of the website for more information.** Please spread the word about the school amongst your friends and on social media— lots of parents are asking for advice on good schools locally. We do not have a large child population in our catchment so we rely on people hearing about us and driving to us because we offer something special— a small rural school, with a loving friendly environment, strong teaching and incredible grounds. Thank you as always for your continued support. Numbers coming into reception are essential to the future of the school and birth rates locally are forecast to be low over the coming years.

## Anti Bullying Week 13th-17th November

Anti-Bullying Week 2023 is coordinated in England, Wales and Northern Ireland by the Anti-Bullying Alliance. This year it has the theme 'Make A Noise About Bullying' and will take place from Monday 13th to Friday 17th November. The week will be kicked off with **Odd Socks Day on Monday 13th November**, where adults and children wear odd socks to celebrate what makes us all unique.



### DSAT Conversion Update:

As you are aware, in recent weeks and months we have been consulting on our plans to join the Diocese of Salisbury Academy Trust. **Thank you to those who attended the meetings or responded to the online questionnaire.** At the meeting we were able to present our rationale and discuss the options that had been considered. We were able to follow up a few questions with some of you individually.

As part of the consultation, ourselves and the Trust were able to respond to each of the questions raised and there was nothing to materially affect our decision to make this move. Questions were largely around organisational changes, curriculum and uniform. In each of these cases, you will feel very little difference. The school leadership and staffing structure will remain the same and your day-to-day contact will continue as always. We will be working with the Trust to continually improve and refine our curriculum and education offer in the school as we do now, and we will benefit hugely from their advice and support.

In terms of uniform, there is no need to worry – your children will be able to come to school in their current uniform as normal. Over the year, our uniform providers will be changing the logo to match the new logo we have designed as being part of the Trust. **You will be able to continue wearing the current uniform for as long as it is wearable but any new uniform you buy will have the new logo on once current stocks have been run down.** Next September, we will be gifting every child with a school sweatshirt with the new logo on.

Currently, the move to the Trust is on schedule to take place on 1<sup>st</sup> December – we will let you know if there is any change to this. Mr Lacey, the Trust's CEO, will come into school early in the new year to lead a collective worship and to formally welcome the children and staff into the Trust. The day we join DSAT is actually the day of their 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary. We will be joining them online for a celebration event at 9.30am that morning so the children will quickly feel part of the wider family. As always, if there are questions you have, please do let us know.

On Friday 1<sup>st</sup> December, we will be holding a Trust-wide **'Bring a Bear, Bring a Pound' day**. Each of the schools in DSAT has a Bear (see below) which represents the fact that the school belongs to the Trust, so we are picking up on that theme. Everyone is invited to bring a bear to school and contribute anything up to £1 (less is absolutely fine) which will go towards raising money for the Child of Hope School in Uganda, which is supported by some of our schools. If we all schools in the Trust take part, we could raise over £4,000 for this wonderful cause and make a real difference to young people's lives. Of course, lunchtime on 1<sup>st</sup> December will be branded as a Teddy Bears' Picnic!



### Important Reminders:

#### Upcoming Diary Dates:

#### **Every Wednesday: Chaplain days**

#### **November:**

**10th** – Remembrance Service – 10:45-11:15

13th-17th – Anti Bullying Week

17th: PTA Disco POSTPONED

20th: Travelling book fair

#### **December:**

5th – Celebration for St Nicholas Day

6th – Fox Class Trip: Living Rainforest

11th-13th at 2pm – Nativity Performances (note new dates)

18th Spiritual Day

19th – Christmas Service & Whole School Christmas Dinner

20th – Last day of term