



Message from Mrs Crouch

All Church of England schools are inspected every five years under the Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS) protocol. This week, we were delighted to welcome the inspector and share how our school motto, *'Believe and Achieve'*, is actively lived out by both children and staff. The final report is expected in October 2025.

We are very grateful to the parents who completed the survey. It was wonderful to receive your thoughtful feedback. Here are some key highlights:

- Families deeply appreciate the school's care, support, and dedicated staff.
- St. Nicholas is described as a welcoming school with a strong Christian ethos.
- Parents value the sense of community and the school's commitment to its Christian identity.
- The school is seen as nurturing, positive, and proud of its values.

Children also shared how Christian values are part of everyday school life:

- "I love the spiritual garden because it makes me feel calm and relaxed."
- "The school council planted trees and hope grew."
- "On sports day, I hope I can win."
- "In class, you keep going and don't give up."
- "If I say I can't, then I won't. If I say I'll try, I can be successful."

Thank you to everyone who helps make our school such a caring and supportive place. The sense of community at St. Nicholas is something we're incredibly proud of.

Together, we continue to build a school where every child feels valued, encouraged, and inspired to *Believe and Achieve*.

Core Values



Kindness



Perseverance



Hope



Responsibility

Upcoming Events

Harvest Service

Parents are invited to the Harvest Service in St Nicholas church at 9.05am on Tuesday 30th September. We will also be collecting non-perishable food for the local foodbank. A list of suggested donations can be found on page 4.

School Council Elections

Elections take place twice in the academic year to provide maximum opportunities for children. If children wish to stand for election, they can prepare a short speech at home. The elections will take place on Friday 26th September.

Dates

20th Sept—PTA Welcome back picnic 12pm—3pm

W/b 22nd Sept—School council elections

25th Sept—Diamond Class—Peace Day Service

30th Sept—Harvest Service at St Nicholas Church
all classes attending 9.05am

3rd Oct—National Poetry Day 9:05am

6th Oct—Flu Immunisation

10th Oct - INSET Day

21st & 23rd Oct—Parent Consultations

27th—31st Oct—Half Term

3rd Nov—Children return to school in Winter Uniform

3rd Nov—All Saints Day—Children can wear one item of clothing in house colours

W/C 3rd Nov —Year 5 Cycle Training

5th Nov—Year 6 NCMP Health Checks

10th Nov—Odd Socks day

12th Nov—Diamond Class Assembly 9.05am

10th Dec—Emerald, Sapphire & Diamond Class
Carol Service at St Nicholas Church 6pm

11th Dec—Garnet Class Nativity Performance
9.05am

12th Dec—Topaz Class Nativity Performance
9.05am

17th Dec—Christmas Jumper Day

18th Dec—End of Term Service at St Nicholas
Church all classes attending 9.05am

18th Dec—End of Term school finishes at 1.15pm

<https://www.stnicholasce.org/diary/grid/2025/01/>

This half term we are learning about:

Thankfulness

"Rejoice always. Pray without ceasing. In everything give thanks, for this is the will of God.

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

Topaz Class Sculptures:

Topaz class has been inspired by the natural world in their art lessons.

They sketched snail shell patterns from observation and then created a clay sculpture, using etching tools.



Awards: Stars of the week:

Diamond: Ally for showing kindness by helping others in class. Eva for being friendly and welcoming to Mrs Lee and Mrs Wild. Jude for taking responsibility for his learning. Zachary for sharing his ideas in class.



Sapphire: Alexander F for his contribution to the class discussion on Jesus's qualities as a leader during our R.E lesson. Dash for his creative writing. Ines for her contribution to class discussions. Rory for showing perseverance in his writing and editing his work.

Emerald: Finley, Luke and Oliver for settling in well into Emerald class. Emerald class for being amazing on the Watford General Hospital trip.

Topaz: Alexander for his amazing writing. Oliver for helping children and the teacher in class. Philip for showing kindness to younger children and for being so interested in his learning. Primrose for her thoughtful participation in RE discussion.

Garnet: Billy for following our school rules and setting a wonderful example to others. Ivy for showing so much enthusiasm for all our class activities. Izzy for being a helpful member of Garnet class and for being a good friend. Olivia for settling in so well into Year 1 in Garnet class.



Good citizens Award:

Diamond: Hunter and Alex for being efficient and hardworking Table and Benches superstars.

Extra Curricular Achievements:

Congratulations to Amelia DM, Edith, Ines, Jude and Riley for passing their piano exams.

Congratulations to Daniel and Victoria P for taking part in their church summer project.



Prayer

Dear God,

Thank you for your amazing power and work in our lives,
thank you for your goodness and for your blessings over us.

Thank you that you are able to bring hope through even the toughest of times,
strengthening us for your purposes.

Forgive us for when we don't thank you enough, for who you are,
for all that you do, for all that you've given.

Help us to set our eyes and our hearts on you afresh.

Renew our spirits, fill us with your peace and joy.

Amen



PTA Welcome Back Picnic

Welcome (Back) Picnic

WHEN: Sat 20 Sep - 12noon-3pm

WHERE: St Nic's Playground (*if it's rainy on the day, we will move into the church hall next to the playground*)

BOOK: £4 for one child; £8 for two or more children (adults free) <https://pay.collectiv.com/st-nics-pta-welcome-back-picnic-1148>

Don't forget to book your tickets for our lovely annual Welcome (Back) Picnic!

It's a fun and relaxed family event with a bouncy castle, face painting, games and more.

Drinks and small snacks, as well as all the games and entertainment for the children are *all free of charge!*

You can bring your own picnic and we have a paid BBQ on the day. You can come for all or part of the afternoon, it's very relaxed, and it's really lovely with Year 6s there to have fun with the buddies.

Can't wait to see many of you there!!



King's Pantry

The King's Pantry Food Bank started in 2013, supporting families working through debt issues in partnership with the Harpenden Money Advice Centre.



What donations do we need? (Unfortunately we cannot store fresh food)

Breakfast Cereals	Baked Beans
Soups Tinned and Dried	UHT Milk
Tuna, Mackerel, Sardines	Noodles and Couscous
Tinned Fruit	Biscuits, including Savoury Biscuits / Crackers
Tinned Vegetables	Desserts (Jelly, Angel Delight etc)
Tins Pulses and beans, Chickpeas, Kidney Beans etc	Custard
Tea and Coffee	Tins Rice Pudding
Tinned Meat	Spreads - Jam, Peanut butter, Chocolate
Tins Tomatoes	Tins Spaghetti Hoops
Jars of Pasta Sauce	Tins Macaroni Cheese
Packets of Instant Mash	Crisps and snacks
Tins Sweetcorn	Squash
Rice including microwave packets	