

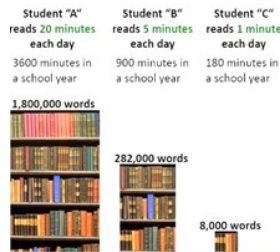


Message from Mrs Crouch

Welcome back after the half term break. We hope you all enjoyed some rest, fresh air, and time together. It has been lovely to see the children return with such energy and enthusiasm at the start of term. We also loved celebrating World Thinking Day this week. It was brilliant to see children proudly wearing their different uniforms, showing the groups they belong to and the ways they make a difference in our community. These connections help strengthen friendships and support the *Connect* aspect of wellbeing.



Reading widely increases pupils' vocabulary by exposing them to words they may not hear in everyday speech. It also feeds their imagination, opening up a treasure house of wonder and joy for curious young minds.



Research shows that reading for pleasure supports children's wellbeing, strengthens social connections, and is linked to greater social mobility. It also allows them to explore challenging situations safely through stories, helping them understand feelings and worries before they encounter similar experiences in real life.

It was wonderful to see so many parents at our reading workshop. Your enthusiasm and support make such a difference. A special thank you to Mrs Kennett and Mrs Hammerson for leading the session and sharing practical, inspiring ways to help children develop a love of reading at home.

Core Values



Upcoming Events:

World Book Day



Our annual celebration of authors, illustrators, books and the joy of reading will take place on Friday 6th March. Children can dress up as a character from their favourite book or wear their comfiest reading clothes or pyjamas.

Dates

- 2nd Mar—Year 5/6 Football Match at Beech Hyde Primary School Wheathampstead 3.30pm
- 4th Mar—Home Netball playing St Helen's Primary School at 3.30pm
- 6th Mar— World Book Day
- 10th Mar—Emerald Class Visit Kew Gardens
- 11th Mar—Harpenden & District Football Tournament at Wood End School 1.15pm**
- 12th Mar— Harpenden & District Netball Rally at Katherine Warrington School 1.45pm**
- 12th Mar—Year 5/6 Football Match at Markyate Village School 3.30pm**
- 13th Mar—KS1 Music Recital School Hall 9.30am**
- W/C 16th Mar—Neurodiversity Week
- 16th Mar—Year 5/6 Football Match at The Lea 3.30pm**
- 16th Mar—Year 6 Netball Match at Sauncey Wood 3.30pm**
- 19th Mar—Year 6 Crucial Crew Visit**
- 19th Mar—Year 5/6 Netball Match at Manland Primary School 3.30pm**
- 20th Mar—Red Nose Day
- 20th Mar—KS2 Music Recital St Nicholas Church 5pm**
- 26th Mar—Year 5/6 Football Match at Sauncey Wood 3.30pm**
- 27th—End of Term Church Service—All classes attending—9.05am
- 27th Mar— Last day of term—School finishes at 1.15pm
- 13th Apr—Summer Term begins—Children return to school in Summer uniform

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

This half term we are learning about:

Justice

Amos 5:15 – 'Love good. Seek justice in the courts.'



World Thinking Day:

This week, we celebrated World Thinking Day. This year was especially significant as it marks the 100th anniversary. It is a day to reflect on international friendships, learn about members of both organisations in other countries, and take action to make the world a better place.

The children wore their uniforms to school and used the opportunity to share their involvement with their friends.



Awards: Stars of the week:

Diamond: Henry R for always showing kindness. Tyler for showing enthusiasm.



Sapphire: Emily and Jack S for showing excellent inferencing skills when reading Greek Mythology and demonstrating a strong understanding of how people's beliefs shape their likes.

Emerald: Archie for a good prediction in reading. Isabelle for showing a good understanding of perimeter in Maths.

Topaz: Audrey for showing care and kindness to friends. Jaden for focus and perseverance in swimming lessons.

Garnet: Owen for working hard on his phonics and reading. Sebastian for working hard on his writing and using finger spaces more consistently.

Good citizens Award:

Diamond: Fred for being caring and showing kindness to a younger friend



Enrichment Activity:

Diamond: Congratulations to Eddie for an excellent accomplishment. Completing a Maths challenge this week and achieving a fantastic score.



Prayer

Lord, thank you for our school.
Thank you for friends and the joy they bring.
Bring comfort to people who feel lonely.
Let us be kind and generous friends to everyone around us.
Let it be a loving and supportive place for everyone.
Give us courage to stand against unkindness.

Amen



PTA World Book Day—Sponsor a Book

Sponsor a Book this World Book Day

Books are as important as ever as pupils develop essential reading, comprehension and critical thinking skills. Every year, your generosity helps our school to maintain interesting and engaging selections of books in every classroom that keep pupils inspired and motivated to keep on reading!

Our teachers really appreciate the resources this fundraiser makes possible every year.

How to Sponsor a Book:

1. Donate £5 / £10/ £15 / £20 for new books for your child's classroom - click on this link to make your donation: <https://pay.collectiv.com/world-book-day-27454>
2. Email Stnicsbooks@gmail.com stating your child's class, name to be used as the 'sponsor' (i.e. family name / child's name) and the name in which you have made payment.

If you would rather provide a cash donation, please feel free to post an envelope containing your donation and child's name and class into the PTA post box.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support.

Kate, Natalie and Louise (PTA)

