

St Nic's Days

A pupil-written school newspaper



Issue #3 – Spring 2018

An aweSTEM week!

During the week starting Monday 12th of March 2018, the whole school got involved in "STEM" week. STEM means science, technology, engineering and maths.

Year 5 made shelters out of wood, tarpaulin, rope and pegs. In Year 4, they recreated the digestion system all the way from beginning to end! In Year 3, they used baking soda and vinegar (which made CO₂) to inflate balloons, "The class smelled like a fish-and-chip shop afterwards!" said Mr. Mac.

Unfortunately, on the 14th of March Stephen Hawking died. He was one of the most honoured scientists in the world and had a tragic disease, amyotrophic lateral sclerosis. Stephen's doctor told him when he was 72 that in six months he would probably die, but amazingly he survived another 4 years!

At lunch on that day, Mr Davies, Miss Kite and Mr Mac ran a helicopter workshop in honour of Stephen Hawking. Children decorated their helicopters and then dropped them from the top of the staircase in the Ark... They flew really well!

In KSI, Mrs MacDonald worked with some children and used skittles with water to look at how the colours were affected. The current whereabouts of the remaining skittles are unknown.

Finally, in Advanced Coding Club, the children have been coding their own apps and have even programmed a little robot! One coder said that the club was "A great way to get into secondary school coding!"



Above: KS2 children proudly presenting their helicopters for testing.

Welcome!

Hello readers and welcome back to another issue of St Nic's Days. It has been a long and cold winter but now we can think about the sunnier days that lie ahead. In this issue you will find: poems, competitions, tournaments, events, crafting ideas and general information about what has been happening all around the school. We hope you enjoy the issue. Have fun reading, enjoy all your Easter eggs, and we all hope that you have a nice spring! See you in the next issue.

Hour of Power

Earth hour was booked in for 11:00 on Thursday 22nd of March. Earth hour is when we turn off all lights, computers and our smart boards as well as many other electronics. Despite it being a bit dark, we turn off our electronics to help the environment and help save the animals homes!

Quick Sticks

Some people from each Year 5 class got chosen to go to a Quick Sticks (hockey) tournament. As our school came 2nd out of 7 schools, we did not get a trophy this time but maybe we will next time! All that matters is we and many other schools participated in it and had fun.

CAUGHT RED-HANDED

Teachers have been going into each other's classes and watching us! Is it because they are jealous of our fun lessons? Is it because they wish they had us for their class? Why are they sneaking around the school? Why are they doing this? For an example, Mr Davies was CAUGHT RED HANDED in Terrapins' classroom. Meanwhile, Mr Mac was CAUGHT RED HANDED in Turtles' classroom. Miss Kite was CAUGHT RED HANDED in Sea Otters. Mrs Stenning was CAUGHT RED HANDED in Sea Lions' class. It seems that Mrs Bishop was accompanying some of the teachers on their mission, whatever it was...

Easter Egg Hunt

As always, our school is holding an Easter egg hunt on the last day of term before the Easter holidays. This is your perfect opportunity to win an extra chocolate egg and take part in the fun with all your friends! Simply get your card stamped by all the Easter characters in the playground to win a huge Easter egg! Everyone who completes all the stamps will get one, however it is 'first come first serve' and so you may not get exactly the one you wanted.

Here is some advice to keep the Hunt fun for everyone!

1. Although some people may want to tell you where the stamps you must collect are, others may want to find them themselves so please don't tell anyone unless they ask you to!
2. Going around with a friend can often be helpful, as two heads are better than one and you will get a lot more done a lot quicker!
3. Don't be upset if you don't get exactly the egg you wanted; they are all delicious and the staff work very hard to get everyone to have one! (Believe me, I've been at the school for quite a time and have tasted almost all the options!)
4. And finally, don't try to ask for a second egg as all the uneaten ones will go to charities who care for children who may not get any Easter

eggs this year. By only taking one egg, another child just like you could have a wonderful Easter!

Enjoy your Easter egg hunt and have a brilliant Easter!

Winter Olympics

This has been one of the best years for England in the winter Olympics. This may not attract as much attention as the one that goes on in the summer but it still contains the same amount of excitement and skill. The events are very different, including skiing, snow-boarding, ice skating, skeleton and lots more.

New football rules

Now, we all know that football can be rough so the sport leaders are making new football rules to make football friendlier and cause less injuries, therefore it will be more fun for the players. It should encourage children to play more, get more skilled and get more exercise. The sports leaders are working hard and hoping it will work.

Snow way!

Snow! Yep, we had a lot of snow - the most snow we have had in about 5 years!

The whole school field was covered in a blanket of white snow! Snow way did we ever expect it to snow here.

On the field, before school, at break time and at lunch we had snowball fights. Unfortunately some people got a bit wet; let's look on the bright side... Despite getting cold we all had fun (even the teachers)!

The snow has caused a kerfuffle on UK roads. Many transport vehicles were stuck in queues for an awfully long time. Many people across the UK have had up to 20cm of snow! St Nic's opened anyway - we didn't want to miss out on the fun.

One reporter wrote the following piece inspired by the weather:

All was silent in a meadow. The meadow was filled with crunchy white snow. No flowers were blooming, for it was not spring. Winter's cold wings had swept a cloak of white all over the world. All the flowers had popped their heads into the ground and were sleeping like little butterflies snoozing.



Above and Above Right: Snow on the field. Everyone had a great time - even the teachers!

Recommended Reads

To celebrate the fantastic Book Week we had recently, here are some incredible books that you might like to read this holiday!

1. **Bear's Golden Hearts** is a brilliant book by Gillian Shields about a small bear trying to find his home in the world.
2. **Eragon**, for older children, is a great story about a boy finding a mysterious dragon egg in the forest...
3. **The Polar Bear Explorers' Club** is about a group of brave explorers on an expedition to find the coldest part of the Iceland, whilst having magic-filled adventures along the way.
4. **Rainbow Fish to the Rescue**, for younger readers, is a heart-warming tale of friendship, belonging and acceptance. (Sequel to the best seller *Rainbow Fish*.)
5. **Wonder**, for older readers, shows one thing: You shouldn't judge a book by its cover. Or a boy by his face! A very interesting read, if a little upsetting in places.

A Poem of Easter

Please enjoy this poem, written by one of the reporters:

*Easter is a time for flowers,
May gives sun and April showers,
Easter eggs and bunnies too,
But what is the meaning true?*

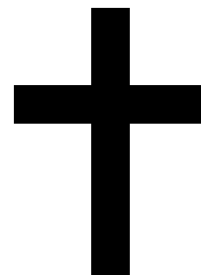
*Days before, Jesus had died,
To save us from our sins and lies,*

*Buried in a tomb was he,
With a grave stone so heavy,*

*But Easter was a special day,
The tomb where once he lay,
He was no longer lying there,
The tomb was lonely, grey and bare,*

*For on this day Jesus arose,
From his tomb he moved the stone,
His friends were awed and so amazed,
To find him living from the grave.*

*Think of how great it would be,
Your dead friend lives again you see,
Believe this story, from the start,
And give Jesus a place inside your heart.*



Teacher Interviews

Can you guess which teacher gave the following answers? Answers on the back page.

What is your favourite subject?

- 1.) Computing
- 2.) P.E.
- 3.) R.E.
- 4.) P.E. and Maths
- 5.) Science

Why did you want become a teacher?

- 1.) I enjoy learning about new things and spending time with a bunch of bright sparks (clever children)!
- 2.) Because I find children more fun than adults.
- 3.) Because I like being creative.
- 4.) Because I find children funny!
- 5.) To help children.

Why do you like teaching?

- 1.) Every day is very different.
- 2.) Because I love seeing my class each day!
- 3.) Because I love being creative.
- 4.) Because children make me laugh.
- 5.) Because there is free cake in the staff room!!

How many schools have you worked for?

- 1.) 5 including a secondary school.
- 2.) 5 but this is my first proper school.
- 3.) 2 in France and this one.
- 4.) 2.
- 5.) 2.

Have you had any other jobs?

- 1.) I have worked for Lego and Nintendo.
- 2.) Music charity and taught people football and guitar.
- 3.) A waitress in France and worked in an environment stable.
- 4.) Physio in the NHS and the same for two football teams.
- 5.) In an adventure centre and in an office.

Teams Behind the Scenes

A member of Dream Team stated, "Our school is setting up a new foreign school partnership in Africa!" The sports leaders have been working on the aforementioned Football Rules. A member of School Council told us that they, "Are planning the markings for better pitches for sports!"

Our Dream Team and Eco Council have also cleaned our playgrounds and field. Rubbish was everywhere and the teams spent ages cleaning it all up! Thanks, teams!

How to make a spring chic

1. Eat a kinder egg.
2. Empty the yellow container.
3. Cut out orange feet and stick them on the bottom.
4. Then cut out a beak and eyes and add them on.
5. Next add wings and some feathers and you have a new spring friend.
6. Make a nest with some string and glue and make the chic some friends!



Five Go Farming

Applesham Farm is a fun, educational trip for the Year Five Pupils. They spend a day at the farm learning about the nature, crops and animals. In year five you get to go three times, once each term, so you can see the changes. Lots of people enjoy the third trip most of all, where they get to see the baby lambs. You even get to hold them, which is a lot of fun!



Above: A great place to learn!
Right: The Y4 Play in full swing.

Fir Real!

Amazingly, Mr Tel, the school's fantastic caretaker, has put a new ground around the fir trees. It is much better, as when it rains the ground doesn't get all muddy! The ground is now softer and more fun to play on! It looks a lot nicer too.



A Powerful Performance

Year 4 performed a show called One Planet Future. There were lots of minibeasts and the theme of the play was recycling.

Lots of characters played significant parts, teaching the audience the importance of recycling. There were some spiders, foxes, ants, 'Wasteland Warriors' and 'Grots'. The show was very interesting and full of catchy songs! One of the star performers said their favourite song was, "We're here to stay!" Everybody enjoyed watching the performance, it was funny and everyone clapped.

DVDs will be available soon. Well done, Year 4!



Happy Easter, everyone!

Thank you for reading another issue of St Nic's Days. Have a lovely Easter break and we'll see you in the summer!

Bonus: Easter Poem and Wordsearch

Easter is the time of year
Where we see cute lambs near,
Flowers sprouting in the wild
Every single person smiled
The Easter bunny is hopping about
Giving yummy treats out
Easter is the time of year.

T t o n m c z e m b s e f d y w u w s h
w e v D g a o a c b s f p o h y v a s c
g f g u s t t l a m b g y n m r r e t t
x h n a z n u l m l n f f l p e n p r u
o l p f r v l x m a e i n o l k e o a l
n e D e j d o i d j s e l i v t H x w o
x l l v a d e s e s h g r c a s s u m m
s p d c k v o n v x d p b d f b h v t c
a s b p b d u v i t A p a b D n t M s t
p x e c h l n s t r x d r x e n u r p v
v D p h e n p s e a v d h m t e v o m x
p t s t r s h e n r p n b l i r u i o t
c s s o o p e g g l k o v p k s b e n p
C n a x w f d o g p x B W w l t i t u f
g o r B f s s u n n g c h i c k s b o d
h g v l d f B n o g k g U n p f o l f
s e z t n s d n e g d i r A t y b n t z
d c d z g d a z y h c d n s b n b r u a
i l x v s d r p e e b l b n i o z v p s
Z a c b o D g f D x u x y P o t d l s p

A p r i l s e a g a r d e n
b e e c h i c k l a m b
s u n g r a s s k i t e

Please recycle this newspaper if you don't want it anymore!



Answers to page 6:
1.) Mr Davies
2.) Mr Mac
3.) Miss Kite
4.) Mrs Stenning
5.) Miss Harvey