
The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; And he will be called Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

Isaiah 9: It's amazing to think that hundreds of years before the first Christmas, Isaiah prophesied that the Light of the World would emerge from the little known area of Galilee. It may feel like we don't know what's going to happen next week, over Christmas or in the New Year. But God knows. He knows our worries, hopes and dreams. Let's pray he illuminates our coming days.

1. COMMUNICATION

- **Website:** please check the website for answers to any queries before contacting the office.
- **Emails:** use office@stnm.org.uk to contact the school with queries – please include your child's class.
- **School Office:** parents/carers should **not** enter the foyer unless they have a pre-arranged appointment. Please refer to the school website for information or email / phone if you have any queries 01273 454470.
- **Calendar:** term dates, upcoming events etc. This can be filtered by year group to help you find dates relevant to you. Follow the link for instructions on how to [use](#) or [subscribe](#) to the calendar.
- **Letters / Emails sent home this week:** Click on the link to see past letters:
<http://www.stnicolasmary.w-sussex.sch.uk/page/?title=Letters+Sent+Home&pid=56>

2. HEALTH & SAFETY – CORONAVIRUS – IMPORTANT INFORMATION

- **Symptoms:** It is of extreme importance that if you or members of your household have symptoms of coronavirus the whole household must immediately go into self-isolation and children in the household should not attend school. Please arrange a test(s) for anyone with the symptoms urgently. This will help to ensure that in the case of a positive test result, contacts of the person can self isolate promptly to prevent further spread of infection to the wider community.
- **Getting tested:** <https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test> or call 119. If having a home test, please use the test as soon as it arrives and return it in the post the same day using a priority postbox.
- **Positive test result:** please email positivetest@stnm.org.uk to advise us if you receive a positive test result for your child (or yourself if you have been volunteering in school or if you consider that pupils or school staff have been in close contact with you), which will be monitored over weekends and holidays.
- **Tracing contacts:** If we are notified of a positive case, it is likely that the entire class, to which a pupil testing positive belongs, will immediately be asked to stay at home whilst we consider which members of the school community need to self isolate.
- **Self-isolating and Home Learning:** if your household is self-isolating and your child is absent from school, home learning materials can be found on the class pages on the website.

3. WORSHIP & ETHOS: next week's assembly is *Fruits of the Spirit: #9 Apple Self-control*

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCVs_954b4yEOTi5sAhKhGKw

4. THANK YOU for your donations to the Poppy Appeal – we raised £137.48 for the Royal British Legion.

5. BOOK TIPS AND CHALLENGE FROM THE ENGLISH TEAM!

- Our Book Tip for children aged 9-11 this week is... **'Moon Dog'** by Jane Elson. If you get a chance to read this, please write a short book review on it, and send it into Mr de Waal (either through your teacher or email the office!) There will be a prize for those who do this! Good luck!
- Our Book Tip for our younger readers is... **'What I like Most'** by Mary Murphy. I would love to hear your thoughts on this, so maybe you could draw a picture about the book, tell us about your favourite part, or even write a short paragraph telling us what you thought about the book in general. Again, please send any work into school via email or through your class teacher and there will be a Reading Prize for those entries! Good luck, and have fun reading!

6. CHRISTMAS!

- **Christmas Events at School:** please check the calendar for events and activities over the next few weeks!
- **Christmas Cards & Gifts:** please can your child bring in any Christmas cards for friends/staff or gifts for staff by Friday 11th December. Children should only bring in cards for children in their class bubble. These will then be quarantined for 72 hours before handing out the following week. Thank you.
- **PTA Christmas Hampers:** don't forget to send in a themed gift for your year group Raffle Hamper boxes. These always look amazing and are great prizes.
- **PTA Christmas Raffle:** thank you to those who have already returned your ticket stubs and money. Please sell as many tickets as you can and post the stubs, money and unsold tickets in the lockable box outside the foyer by Wednesday 9th December. If you need more tickets please ask. The raffle will be drawn on Friday 11th December.
- **Wiston Light Up Trail Poster Competition:** Wiston Estate is running a competition for schools to win £2,500 for their art department. Students just need to design a poster for the Light Up Trail and upload it to their website. The winning student will win a family ticket to the event along with £2,500 for the school's art department. Please see the flyer in this bulletin or click on the links for more information. <https://www.lightuptrails.com/> <https://www.lightuptrails.com/competition>
- **Chartwells Christmas Activities:** please click on the link for details about Chartwells Christmas activities competition [Chartwells Christmas Activities](#)
- **Chartwells Christmas Dinner – Wednesday 16th December:** if your child is in Years 3, 4, 5 or 6 and they would like to have a Christmas dinner on this day, you need to book a meal for them online (menu on page 5) <https://westsussex.mealselector.co.uk/> The deadline to book is Sunday 6th December.



7. **YEAR 4 SWIMMING UPDATE:** Unfortunately swimming at Lancing College will not go ahead this term. We will hopefully be able to start again in the spring term when the College opens the pool and changing rooms for school use.

REQUESTS & REMINDERS

8. **MORNING DROP-OFF:** During early morning work, just after drop off, teaching assistants are often reading quietly with children in the corridor near the Y1 Classes. This is an important time for settling the children quietly and helping them make progress with their reading or engaging them with other activities in the classroom. We have noticed that some parents are trying to say an additional goodbye to their children through the East Ark Door as they exit from the playground. We would be most grateful if parents could refrain from doing this as it causes disruption to those who are trying to teach and learn. Please ensure you say goodbye only at the classroom door near the trim trail. Many thanks for your support in this.
9. **DANGEROUS PARKING:** we are still receiving concerns and complaints from residents about the dangerous and inconsiderate parking outside and around the school. People must not park in front of residents' driveways, on corners, up on kerbs, on double yellow lines or on the zig zags. **DO NOT PARK IN THESE PLACES** – it is dangerous and puts all our children at risk, as well as causing congestion on the road. There is parking available over at Buckingham Park or on nearby roads. **PLEASE PLEASE PLEASE** park carefully and considerately. The school will not hesitate to report such incidents to the police. This includes dropping off/picking up from the Octopus and Starfish clubs and any other after school clubs. **Reporting bad/inconsiderate parking: Anybody** can report bad/inconsiderate parking by going to www.operationcrackdown.org You need to include the registration number, make & model of car, location of the incident. We would encourage any parent/carer who witnesses dangerous parking to report it immediately.

- 10. TOYS IN SCHOOL:** Please can children refrain from bringing small toys into school, including trading cards. We have had an increasing number of children bringing in items from home, particularly in KS1. This is distracting learning but also not safe from a Covid-19 point of view. The only exceptions may be if it is an agreed transitional object, which has been authorised by the SEND team. Many thanks for your support in this.
- 11. LITTLE FISHES NURSERY EXTENDED FUNDING:** Please can we remind you that in order for your child to access Extended FE in the Spring term 2021 their 30 hour code must be issued or renewed by HMRC by 31st December 2020. To renew, log in to your childcare account to check your details are up to date, and reconfirm your eligibility to ensure you continue to be eligible for Extended FE: www.gov.uk/sign-in-childcare-account For any queries please email free.entitlement@westsussex.gov.uk or phone the HMRC helpline if you are experiencing issues applying or reconfirming on 0300 1234 097
- 12. ADMISSIONS FOR SEPTEMBER 2021:** the deadline for applications for children who will be starting primary school in September 2021 is 15th January 2021. Parents/Carers must apply online at www.westsussex.gov.uk/admissions. If you are applying for a place at St Nicolas & St Mary school you must also complete the Supplementary Information form and Church Form (if relevant) which can be found on our website: [Admissions Information for September 2021](#)

Christmas Raffle Hamper

Each year group to create a festive hamper to be won in the PTA Christmas raffle

Year group colour themes (and possible ideas):

YR - Red - Father Christmas

Y1 - Green - nature, trees, holly, mistletoe, etc

Y2 - White - snow, snowflakes, icicles, snowmen

Y3 - Brown & Black - Rudolph, penguins, Christmas pud

Y4 - Yellow - stars

Y5 - Silver - angels

Y6 - Gold - Christmas sparkles, tinsel & baubles

There will be a box outside each classroom to collect donated items for that year group until Thursday 3rd Dec





Wednesday 16th December

£2.35

Festive Menu

Choose a main meal...

Roast Turkey
with Stuffing, Cocktail Sausage & Gravy
or
Quorn Fillet
with Stuffing Ball & Gravy

on the side...

Roast Potatoes
Peas and Carrots

for dessert...

Chocolate Dipped Shortbread
or

Fruit Salad

for a drink...

Fruit Squash

Milk

Water



*To enjoy our festive-inspired day, please
order at www.mealselector.co.uk
no later than Sunday 6th December
2020*





Was your child born between 1 September 2016 and 31 August 2017?

If so they are eligible to start
school in September 2021.

Apply online!

It's simple, convenient
and timesaving. If your
application is received after
the deadline of Friday 15
January 2021 your chance
of securing a place at one of
your preference schools could
be seriously affected.

You can apply online from Monday
5 October 2020. If you would like
further advice or information contact:

03330 142 903

Free internet access to apply
online is available at all:

- West Sussex libraries
- Children and Family Centres



www.westsussex.gov.uk

Apply online at:
www.westsussex.gov.uk/admissions
Deadline: Friday 15 January 2021

