

# St Nicholas Priory C.E.V.A. Primary School Winter Newsletter



## Our Vision Statement

We aim to welcome and celebrate the diversity of all God's children and provide a safe, caring space in which they can achieve their best academically, spiritually and pastorally whilst learning to serve others.

Dear Parents and Carers

A very warm welcome to our December newsletter. I do hope that you have enjoyed celebrating all of your children's achievements and hearing about the wide range of extracurricular activities that they have been able to be part of. We are particularly excited to be part of the Into University Project as we are extremely ambitious for the children in our care. We are also pleased to be partnering with Enjoy which will enable children to attend a wide range of arts events throughout the upcoming year.

Thank you to all those parents who attended our first SEND café. It was great to get a chance to listen to parents and carers and for

them to meet with the agencies who came along to support. It is our intention to run one of these cafes each term the next one being on supporting behaviour.



We are extremely fortunate as a church school to be linked with Great Yarmouth Minster and to be able to hold many of our school events in this beautiful space. It is always lovely to see parents and carers at the many Christmas opportunities on offer including Christmas crafts for reception and our Christmas Service. Our very successful 'Song School' will be

performing at the Civic Service on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> December at 7pm at The Minster

We continue to acknowledge the enormous financial pressures that some families are facing and as such it might appear that we are doing some things just a little differently. We would like to remind parents that it is not our intention to ask for lots of donations as this can be extremely expensive, particularly where there is more than one child in the family. Instead, our aim is to ensure that all children can participate in events such as Christmas Jumper Day or World Book Day and hope that parents and carers will understand and support the reasons why we are making changes. Therefore, please do not feel the need to go out and buy expensive clothes or costumes.

We would like to congratulate Ms Patterson who will be going on maternity leave from December and warmly welcome Miss Natasha Larwood to year 4 and to Priory

I do hope that you will enjoy reading our newsletter and celebrating the achievements of your wonderful children.



As we prepare to go into the Christmas holidays, I would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a safe and peaceful Christmas

We look forward to seeing you on January 4th 2023.

Take care and very best wishes,

*Maria Grimmer*

## Priory Parliament

At St Nicholas Priory we encourage our pupils to have a voice so that their opinions and ideas help shape the school and beyond. Our



*Rt Hon Brandon Lewis.*

Priory Parliament meet regularly once a week to share and make decisions.

This term the Priory Parliament had the opportunity to interview the Rt Hon Brandon Lewis.

## Community Policing

As a school we need to not only deliver the statutory curriculum but want to ensure that we do everything we can to keep our children safe both in school and in their community.

We have been very fortunate to make very positive connections with two community police officers PC Barry and PC Nigel who come into school regularly and support our safety curriculum. These two officers also support us to ensure that children arrive safely at the Minster and the children really enjoy seeing them in school.

The police are very interested in what parents and carers think are the main issues within the local community and we would like to thank everyone who completed the questionnaires.

## Church School and Christian Ethos

This half term we have explored the value of hope. We have looked at hope within Collective Worship and how it is important within the bible and our daily lives.



We have enjoyed Collective Worship in class, as Key Stages and the YouTube videos sent from Father Simon, at Great Yarmouth Minster, who has continued to provide us with exciting and engaging weekly videos.

*Rev. Simon Ward*

Our value in the next half term is Service which echoes our school motto 'We serve and love each other' and explores our deep-rooted values to be courageous advocates and make the world a better place.

## Christmas Pantomime

Its Panto time again ....  
"Oh no it isn't!" ... "Oh yes, it is!"



*Captain Hook and Bruno*

We will be taking children to see Peter Pan at St Georges Theatre. Peter Pan, with the help of Tinkerbell's pixie dust, will take the children to the magical Neverland, home to lost boys, mermaids, Bruno the crocodile and the most villainous pirate of them all; Captain Hook!

Reception,  
Years 2, 3 and 4 will  
attend on **Wednesday  
14<sup>th</sup> December**

Years 1, 5 and 6 will attend  
on **Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December**



## Christmas Lunch

Christmas Lunch will be on **Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> December**. There is an option of Roast Turkey with all the trimmings or a Vegetarian option is also available (see below) – booking essential so please return your slip as soon as possible. There will not be any other cooked or cold lunch options available on this day.

**Christmas Lunch**

Meat Option

**Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> December**

- Roast turkey
- Pig in blanket
- Peas
- Roast potatoes
- Carrots
- Honey roasted parsnips
- Gravy
- Chocolate coated 'Christmas Tree' ice-cream

## High standards

We are pleased to announce that the kitchen has achieved a level 5 – hygiene standards which is classed as very good. Well done to Lesley Ball and her hard-working team: Jan Mandy, Margarida, Sabrina and new team member Karena



**Christmas Lunch**

Veggie Option

**Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> December**

- Vegetarian sausage roll
- Peas
- Carrots
- Roast potatoes
- Honey roasted parsnips
- Gravy
- Blackcurrant Dessert

## Christmas Jumper Day

**Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> December** is Priory's Christmas Jumper day. The children can wear their festive jumpers or tops in school for the day.



Miss Jarmey will be opening her 'Christmas Jumper Swap Shop' on the day, for any children who do not have a Christmas Jumper. Children can borrow a jumper free for the day.

If you have any Christmas jumpers that your children have outgrown, Miss Jarmey will gratefully accept any donations for her 'Christmas Jumper Swap Shop'.



**Awesome Christmas Jumper Swap**

## Community Heroes

This half term the Community Heroes have been busy collecting and making shoe boxes for the charity Operation Christmas Child. The shoe boxes will be heading for Ukraine to give the children there a more joyful Christmas. Thank you to everyone who contributed.



*Jennie, Kelcey and Daniel packaging up the shoe boxes for the journey to Ukraine*



*Samuel, Sadiqa, Kelcey, Daniel, Brandon and Jennie loading the van with the shoe boxes for Ukraine*

## News from Reception

This has been a very busy and successful term for our children in reception. The children have been working extremely hard in their maths, writing and phonics and have all shown amazing progress.

We have also been doing our 'above and beyond' section of our curriculum which has included local trips where we have explored the market and the minister. The children have learnt so much from these trips and our beginning to grasp the local environment and area around our school.

## News from Year 2

Lastly, we have been preparing for our part in Christmas nativity, we have been practicing our dance number and the songs we have chosen. The children have all worked extremely hard on this and we can't wait for you all to see it.

### Stay and play

We have also recently held a stay and play Christmas Craft session at the Minster. We had over 100 people attend, sharing some lovely Christmas crafts to take away with them. We look forward to more stay and play sessions in the future.



*Lilly and Isobelle having a Pudsey cuddle*

We spent a lot of time practicing our performance skills of singing and reading aloud to prepare for the Nativity. We had a fantastic trip to the Elizabethan house where we learnt about Christmas through time.

We took part in workshops helping the 'downstairs' maid prepare for a Victorian Christmas and played parlour games with the Victorian lady of the house.

We end this half term with two celebrations at The Minster for the Key Stage 2 Christmas Service and the EYFS and Key Stage 1 Nativity. We hope you can join us with these celebrations.



*Father Simon getting crafty !*

## News from Year 3

We have started the half term in Year 3 by exploring printmaking in Art. We have used rollers to make different techniques and prints.



*The children used split-pins to make movable skeletons*

We have also been looking at our skeletons and muscles in Science.



We have looked at healthy foods in food technology and made fruit yoghurts, popcorn and chips.



*Fabia, Teddie-Rose and Adrija. Adding fruit and grains to made a healthy yogurt*

## News From Father Simon at the Minster

It was a pleasure to welcome lots of Reception families to Great Yarmouth Minster on Tuesday 29th November for a Stay & Play Session.

I particularly enjoyed getting paint on my hands to make a Christmas Tree picture. I also enjoyed eating mince pies!

Thank you to all the families who attended and to the staff who created such a lovely event. Please know that you and your families are always welcome in the Minster and of course there are lots of events happening in the coming weeks, especially the KS1 Nativity which I am really looking forward to.

Another great service for families is our Crib Service on Christmas Eve at 4pm. See our website for details:  
[www.gtyarmouthminster.org](http://www.gtyarmouthminster.org)



*Laura and Keynara enjoying the delicious yogurt*

## News from Year 4

This half term, in Year 4 we have been very busy with our learning.

We recently went to The Waterways and had a great time. This links to our curriculum learning and writing topic. Here are some pictures of what we got up to:



The children completed some observational sketches of their surroundings. The children found this very calming and relaxing.

*Artwork the children created, using natural resources*



*Kelly creating her observational sketch*



*Daniel, Suki, Skye, Ryan and Michael engrossed in their art*

We would like to congratulate the children on working so hard, this half term. We are so proud of them. Have a wonderful Christmas!

## SEND Coffee Morning

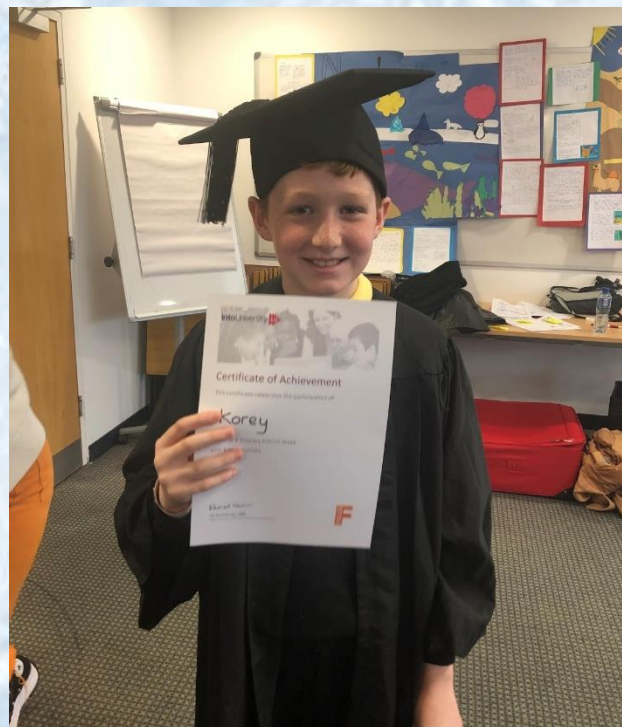
We recently welcomed families to our first SEND coffee morning in school. We had several different services and organisations attend to give advice and support for parents. We are very grateful to all parents who attended this event and we will be running another event in the Spring term, focusing on behaviour.



*How can we help !*



*Mr Rust (KS2 SEND Co) and parent*



*Korey at his Graduation*

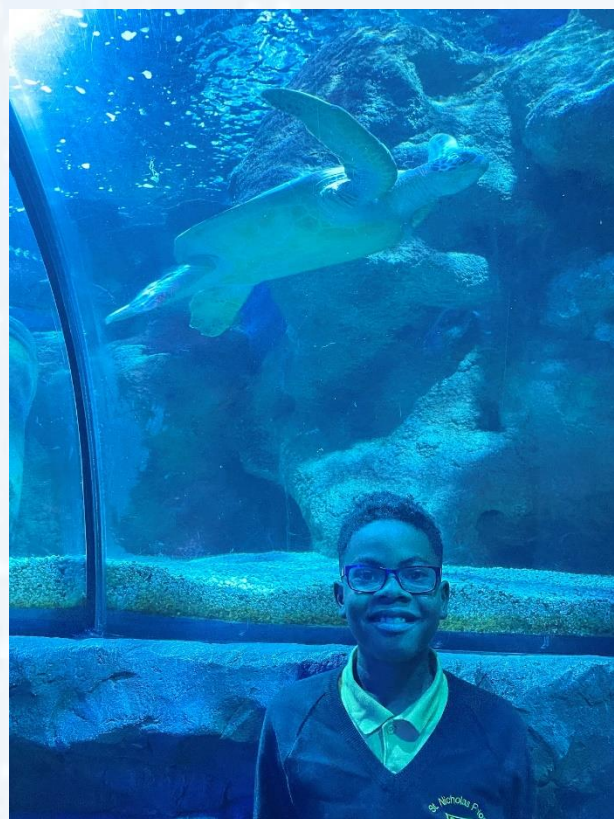
The children took part in an 'environmental science' degree which involved them completing tasks on this topic and then enjoying a tour and graduation ceremony at the UEA. As part of this, they were also able to visit the Sea Life Centre which allowed them to see lots of different sea life including Noah the turtle!



*Information and professional advice from outside agencies*

## News from Year 6

This has been a jam packed half term for year 6. We started with a visit from a team from the Broads explaining a future trip called Sails, Trails and Rails. We also participated in Crucial Crew which was hosted at Seashore by numerous emergency services groups. The purpose of this was to educate the children about various potential dangers and what to do if they are in that situation. We also were able to experience what life would be like as a university student due to the work provided by Into University.



*Samuel with Noah the Turtle*



We have also have been developing our skills in our foundation subjects and extended our knowledge in levers and gears in DT, light in science and the Windrush generation in history. We have been really impressed with the quality of children's work and engagement and interest in these subject areas.

## News from Year 1

Year One have been busy this half term. The children have been learning all about Mae Jemison, the first black female in space as well as lots of other space facts! They learnt fractions by making jam sandwiches (and eating them!) then cutting them in half. We celebrated Children in Need and even had a visit from Pudsey. Then, the children have been busy learning their songs and actions for the Nativity being held on Tuesday 13th December at 1.30pm.

## Maths Competition Champions!

In November, eight children from Year 5 and eight children from Year 6 competed in a Maths competition, held at Priory. Teams from Priory and three other local schools came to compete against each other. Both competitions were close through all the rounds, with Priory eventually ending up winning both competitions! All of the children who took part were a credit to the school and fantastic role models. A big congratulations to Kallan and Kyan-Jae, winners of the Year 5 competition, and to Isis and Sadiqa, winners of the Year 6 competition.



## Stars of Norfolk and Waveney Awards

Mrs Grimmer was nominated and shortlisted for the Stars of Norfolk and Waveney Awards which took place at Norwich Cathedral on 1st December. She was one of four worthy candidates in line for 'Education Hero of the Year' award.



Mrs Grimmer was nominated because of her outstanding efforts in championing the children, the families, the staff and the community in which we live. She goes above and beyond to support anyone who walks through her door. Whilst she may not have won on this occasion, she'll always be a winner in our eyes!

Congratulations Mrs Grimmer!



## Diary Dates

### Upcoming Christmas Dates

**Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> December** – KS2 (years 3-6)  
Christmas Service at the Minster at 2pm –  
Parents are welcome to attend

**Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 8<sup>th</sup>**  
December – GYSMA 70<sup>th</sup> Festival of Concerts  
at 7pm – at the Drill Hall, York Road –  
Parents are welcome to attend

**Thursday 8<sup>th</sup>**  
**December** –  
Christmas Lunch –  
Vegetarian option  
available – booking  
essential (see above)

**Thursday 8<sup>th</sup>**  
**December** –  
Christmas Jumper Day  
(see above)

**Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup>**  
**December** –  
Reception and KS1  
(year 1 and 2) –  
Nativity concert at the  
Minster at 1.45pm  
start

**Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> December** - Civic Carol  
Service on at The Minster at 7pm

**Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> December** – Peter Pan  
Pantomime at St Georges Theatre for  
Reception, Years 2, 3 and 4

**Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December** – Peter Pan  
Pantomime at St Georges Theatre for Years  
1, 5 and 6

**Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> or Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December**  
– Santa due to visit from the North Pole



## Term Dates

### Autumn Term

**School closes on:** Friday, 16<sup>th</sup> Dec 2022

### Spring Term

**School opens on:** Wednesday, 4<sup>th</sup> Jan 2023

**School closes on:** Friday 10<sup>th</sup> Feb 2023

**School opens on:** Monday, 20<sup>th</sup> Feb 2023

**School closes on:** Friday, 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023

### Summer Term

**School opens on:** Tuesday, 18<sup>th</sup> April 2023

**School closes on:** Friday, 26<sup>th</sup> May 2023

**School opens on:** Monday, 5<sup>th</sup> June 2023

**School closes on:** Friday 21<sup>st</sup> July 2023

**The school is closed to pupils on  
the following dates due to staff  
training:**

Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> Sept 2022

Monday 5<sup>th</sup> Sept 2022

Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> Jan 2023

Monday 17<sup>th</sup> April 2023

Monday 24<sup>th</sup> July 2023



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