

St. Nicholas NEWSLETTER



Friday 11th September 2026

A note from The Headteacher

Headteacher's Note



We are now at the end of our first full week back and it feels as though the summer holiday was months ago! Students across the school are already fully immersed in our quest, 'Bombs Away' and I have seen some excellent pieces of work from across the curriculum. Our new year 7s seem to be settling in very well and I have really enjoyed getting to know them a bit more.

We are starting to get more dates in to the school diary and will do our best to keep you as updated as possible with all you need to know to support your child and the school in the coming weeks and months. Our first community event will be a Macmillan Coffee Morning which has been scheduled for Friday 25th September. Macmillan is a charity that is close to so many of our hearts and therefore one that we like to support annually at this event. Families are welcome to join us on the day for a cuppa and some cake, to raise funds for a worthy cause. We will be issuing more details about this event next week. Please make a note of the date in your diary for now.

As the weather becomes distinctly more autumnal, please can you make sure your child is coming to school with some kind of coat as the rain has caught us all out a couple of times this week. It always seems to fall just at the moment the end of day bell rings, so a raincoat or similar is needed for the journey out to the bus or the walk home.

Wishing you all a pleasant weekend
Mrs L Fox
Headteacher

School Meals

Due to the increase in food and energy costs, the school meal price has increased to £2.40 per day. Our prices continue to remain as low as we can keep them, providing the best value possible.

Assembly

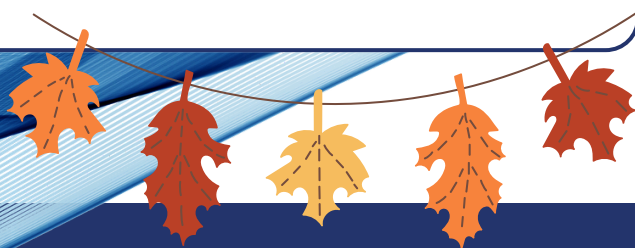
Our school assembly theme next week will be online safety. This will be led by Mr Williams.

Garon's Fun Day

We have been asked to share some information about the above fun day which will take place between 11am-3pm on the 20th September at Garons.

The cost will be £5 per adult (all children under 16 go free).

There will be giant inflatables, a teddy bears picnic, live bee experience, face painting, disco, arts, crafts and football skills, Ice Cream and a delicious BBQ with a fully licensed bar.





Home and School Communications

If we need to talk to you about your child, we may call or email you at any point before, during or after school hours. Weekly updates are sent on Fridays to all parents in the form of our newsletter, via Ping.

Text messages are sent out regularly via Ping.

Letters and consent forms are sent out regularly via ping. Please check your school ping app regularly to keep up to date with information. We will do our very best to make sure you have all the information you need but please do contact us if you are unsure and cannot find the information you need.

How to contact us

Email the school office at:

office@sns.sentrustsouthend.co.uk

Please note this is a new email address.

Our old email address re-directs all emails to the above new address.

You can send emails to any staff member via the school office email address above.

We receive calls between 8.15am and 4.30pm daily. After this time there will be an opportunity to leave a voicemail.

When you call the office, the phone will be answered by:

Ms Turner (Office Manager)

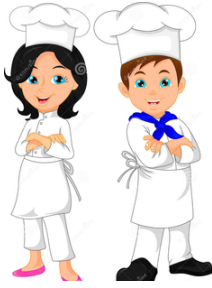
Mrs Sharon Gillespie (Site Manager)

Mrs Sarah White (Admin Assistant)

Mrs Jo Strickland (Business Administrator)



KS3 Home Economics Costs



As part of our school's curriculum, we offer home economics to all students in KS3 (years 7, 8 & 9). This requires a small fee from parents for ingredients. Students are able to bring home their food, if a contribution is received.

The cost is £10.00 per term.

This can be paid for using our online payments system. Please contact the school office if you need help in getting set up on the system.

Thank you in advance for your contributions.



Remaining INSET Days 2026-2027

- 2nd November
- 22nd January
- 12th February
- 28th June

Term Dates 2026-2027

Autumn half term: 26th – 30th October
Autumn term ends: Friday 18th December
Spring term starts: Monday 4th January
Spring half term: 15th – 19th February
Spring term ends: Thursday 25th March
Summer term starts: Monday 12th April
Summer half term: 31st May – 4th June
Summer term ends: Wednesday 21st July

Please see the school term and holiday dates attached for this academic year.



KEY DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



September

10th	11.20am-12.30pm	Hunter class trip to Pets at Home
15th	9.00am-1.00pm	Flu Immunisations (Nasal Spray)
15th	3.45pm-6pm	Open Evening for years 5&6
18 th	10am-12pm	Paul Hannaford Visit for KS4 (PSHCE)
22 nd	ALLDAY	KS4 trip to Bletchley Park for relevant students
25 th	TBC	Macmillan Coffee Morning
30 th	ALLDAY	Portals from the Past WW2 Day (WHOLE SCHOOL)

October

7 th	9.30am-12.30pm	Seeker class trip to the garden centre
14th	9.30am-2.30pm	Seeker class trip to East Beach
21 st	AM	School photographs with Kittle Photography

Dates in **RED** are additions or edits since last week's newsletter

SCHOOL MEALS

Monday 14th September will be week 3 of the below menu

WEEK 1		WEEK 2		WEEK 3	
MONDAY		MONDAY		MONDAY	
MAINS	Chicken Pie	Sausages		Ham and Pineapple Pizza	
VEGETARIAN	Cheese and Sweetcorn Omelette	Quorn Sausages		Cheese Pizza	
SIDE	New Potatoes - Peas	Mash - Carrots - Peas - Gravy		Pasta - Peas - Sweetcorn	
JACKET	Baked Beans or Cheese or Tuna Mayo	Baked Beans or Cheese or Tuna Mayo		Baked Beans or Cheese or Tuna Mayo	
SANDWICH	Ham or Cheese or Tuna Mayo *Extras	Ham or Cheese or Tuna Mayo *Extras		Ham or Cheese or Tuna Mayo *Extras	
DESSERT	Fruit Yoghurt	Fruit Yoghurt		Fruit Yoghurt	
TUESDAY		TUESDAY		TUESDAY	
MAINS	Spaghetti Bolognese	Salmon and Broccoli Pasta		Sausages in Tomato Sauce	
VEGETARIAN	Vegetarian Spaghetti Bolognese	Mac and Cheese		Vegetarian Sausages in Tomato Sauce	
SIDE	Garlic Bread - Mixed Veg - Sweetcorn	Peas - Mixed Veg		Pasta - Peas - Sweetcorn	
JACKET	Baked Beans or Cheese or Tuna Mayo	Baked Beans or Cheese or Tuna Mayo		Baked Beans or Cheese or Tuna Mayo	
SANDWICH	Ham or Cheese or Tuna Mayo *Extras	Ham or Cheese or Tuna Mayo *Extras		Ham or Cheese or Tuna Mayo *Extras	
DESSERT	Rice Pudding	Apple Crumble and Custard		Banana Cake and Custard	
WEDNESDAY		WEDNESDAY		WEDNESDAY	
MAINS	Roast Chicken	Roast Chicken		Roast Chicken	
VEGETARIAN	Cauliflower Cheese	Quorn Fillet		Quorn Fillet	
SIDE	Roast Potatoes - Cabbage - Carrots	Roast Potatoes - Carrots - Peas - Swede		Roast Potatoes - Peas - Carrots	
JACKET	Baked Beans or Cheese or Tuna Mayo	Baked Beans or Cheese or Tuna Mayo		Baked Beans or Cheese or Tuna Mayo	
SANDWICH	Ham or Cheese or Tuna Mayo *Extras	Ham or Cheese or Tuna Mayo *Extras		Ham or Cheese or Tuna Mayo *Extras	
DESSERT	Tropical Fruit Pot	Tropical Fruit Pot		Tropical Fruit Pot	
THURSDAY		THURSDAY		THURSDAY	
MAINS	Chicken Tikka Masala	Chilli Con Carne		Shepherds Pie	
VEGETARIAN	Chickpea Curry	Stir Fry Noodles		Cheese and Tomato Pasta	
SIDE	Rice - Green Beans - Sweetcorn	Rice - Peas - Sweetcorn		Baked Beans - Peas	
JACKET	Baked Beans or Cheese or Tuna Mayo	Baked Beans or Cheese or Tuna Mayo		Baked Beans or Cheese or Tuna Mayo	
SANDWICH	Ham or Cheese or Tuna Mayo *Extras	Ham or Cheese or Tuna Mayo *Extras		Ham or Cheese or Tuna Mayo *Extras	
DESSERT	Fruit Muffin	Iced Sponge		Chocolate Oaty Slice	
FRIDAY		FRIDAY		FRIDAY	
MAINS	Cod Fillets	Fish Fingers		Cod Fillets	
VEGETARIAN	Fishless Fingers	Fishless Fingers		Cheese and Onion Puff	
SIDE	Chips - Baked Beans - Peas	Chips - Baked Beans - Peas		Chips - Baked Beans - Peas	
JACKET	Baked Beans or Cheese or Tuna Mayo	Baked Beans or Cheese or Tuna Mayo		Baked Beans or Cheese or Tuna Mayo	
SANDWICH	Ham or Cheese or Tuna Mayo *Extras	Ham or Cheese or Tuna Mayo *Extras		Ham or Cheese or Tuna Mayo *Extras	
DESSERT	Fruit or Yoghurt	Fruit or Yoghurt		Fruit or Yoghurt	
*Extras include Lettuce, Cucumber, Tomatoes, Peppers or Savoury Snacks					
FRESH FRUIT, YOGURTS AND WHOLEMEAL BREAD ARE AVAILABLE DAILY.					
MOST DISHES ARE MADE DAILY AND ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE.					

St Nicholas School

School Terms and Holiday Dates

Academic Year 2026-2027

September 2026							October 2026							November 2026							December 2026						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6				1	2	3	4							1		1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30					26	27	28	29	30	31		23	24	25	26	27	28	29	28	29	30	31			
														30													
January 2027							February 2027							March 2027							April 2027						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
				1	2	3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	1	2	3	4	5	6	7				1	2	3	4
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
25	26	27	28	29	30	31								29	30	31					26	27	28	29	30		
May 2027							June 2027							July 2027							August 2027						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
					1	2		1	2	3	4	5	6				1	2	3	4							1
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	28	29	30					26	27	28	29	30	31		23	24	25	26	27	28	29
31																					30	31					

	= School Days		= School Holidays		= Bank Holidays		= Non Pupil Days
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Autumn Term :	Thursday 3rd September 2025 - Friday 18th December 2026	74 days
	<i>Non Pupil Day : 1st & 2nd September 2026 & 2nd November 2026</i>	
	<i>Half Term 26th to 30th Oct 2026 & Xmas 21st Dec 2026 to 31st December 2026</i>	
Spring Term :	Monday 4th January 2027 - Friday 25th March 2027	54 days
	<i>Non Pupil Day 22nd January & 12th February 2027</i>	
	<i>Half Term 15th Feb to 19th Feb 2027 Easter 30th Mar to 9th Apr 2027</i>	
Summer Term :	Monday 12th April 2027 - Wednesday 21st July 2027	67 days
	<i>Non Pupil Day 28th June 2027</i>	
	<i>Half Term 1st June 2027 - 4th June 2027</i>	

195 Days

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about ANTISEMITISM

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Antisemitism is anti-Jewish racism. Incidents in the UK remain far higher than before 7 October 2023, with CST recording 3,700 antisemitic incidents in 2025. Like all racism, antisemitism treats people not as individuals, but as stereotypes. It also often imagines Jewish people as 'all-powerful', turning real concerns about injustice and the world's problems into blame, hostility, and conspiracy thinking rather than solutions.

NORMALISING STEREOTYPES

Stereotypes embed racist thinking. Instead of treating people as individuals, they reduce them to examples of alleged group traits. Antisemitism interacts with other forms of racial stereotyping, meaning different racisms can reinforce each other. Stereotypes may seem openly negative or superficially positive, such as 'Jews are clever', but both kinds of stereotyping are harmful and dehumanising. Stereotypes have been normalised in our culture for centuries and may appear in canonical texts studied in school, including Dickens's 'Oliver Twist' and Shakespeare's 'The Merchant of Venice'. These examples need thoughtful discussion that helps children and young people understand the historical context, recognise anti-Jewish racism, and identify the wider dangers of dehumanising others.

HOLOCAUST DISTORTION

All UK school children learn about the Holocaust, which is essential, but this knowledge can also be abused. The internet and social media contain Holocaust distortion, including fake news, the denial of historical evidence, and offensive jokes, all designed to cause harm. Such content can minimise Jewish suffering and make antisemitic ideas seem as though they are acceptable or entertaining. Certain groups often use codes to promote allegiance to neo-Nazi ideology. Numbers that represent letters of the alphabet, such as 88 for 'Heil Hitler', are particularly common. These codes can create the illusion of belonging to an 'initiated club', set against mainstream thinking. For some children and young people, this can be presented as being 'edgy, rebellious, or cool'.

CONSPIRACY THEORIES

Social media constantly exposes children to conspiracy theories, which can then seep into everyday conversation. Many recycle antisemitic tropes, falsely claiming that Jewish people are rich, powerful, or use money and influence to control governments, banks, and the media. This wrongly presents one group as responsible for the world's problems. Some conspiracy theories name Jewish people explicitly, sometimes using coded language such as 'Juice' or similar terms. Others target prominent Jewish families, including George Soros or the Rothschilds, or refer vaguely to 'those people who'. These theories risk placing Jews as 'tools of a global power', dehumanise Jewish individuals, undermine meaningful discussion, prevent the formation of real solutions, and fuel wider hate and anger.

DISCUSSING THE MIDDLE EAST

Global events should never be used to justify racist hatred. Ethnic minority pupils are often targeted by racial stereotypes, but Jewish individuals are routinely blamed for the actions of the state of Israel. The Hamas attack on Israeli civilians on 7 October 2023 was followed by a sharp rise in anti-Jewish hate in the UK, framed as resistance against Jewish 'power', for which Israel is a symbol. Criticising the Israeli government is not antisemitic. However, the IHRA definition explains that applying standards to Israel that are not expected of any other democratic nation, or holding Jewish people collectively responsible for the actions of the Israeli government, can be antisemitic. Real concerns about violence, injustice, or humanitarian crises must not become hostility towards Jewish pupils, families, or communities.

Advice for Parents & Educators

CHALLENGE ALL STEREOTYPING

It is essential to be alert to the dangers of all stereotyping. Explain the interconnectedness of different forms of racism. The Nazis used the legacy of centuries-old anti-Jewish propaganda and tried to turn it into modern 'race science'. To be anti-racist, we must also challenge antisemitism whenever we see it. The legacies of antisemitic thinking can be found in many places, including texts pupils may read at school or stories they encounter in films and popular culture. It is important to be alert to problems in our own heritage and to be as vigilant about anti-Jewish racism as we would be about other racist representations.

EXPLAIN THE HOLOCAUST

The Holocaust was the attempt by the Nazi regime to eradicate the world's entire Jewish population forever. It was implemented across all territories occupied by the Nazis during the Second World War, including countries in Europe and North Africa, and led to the systematic mass murder of six million Jewish men, women and children. Around 1.5 million Jewish children were murdered in the Holocaust. These Jewish communities had been part of these countries for centuries and had made huge cultural contributions. The Holocaust was unprecedented in scope and ambition, and many Jewish families in the UK have ancestors who were affected by these events. It is deeply hurtful when it is minimised, miscompared to other events, or made light of through jokes or casual comments.

UNPICK CONSPIRACY THINKING

Conspiracy theories are difficult to counter directly. Rather than only responding to false claims with facts, try to shift the conversation towards why conspiracy thinking can seem attractive. Ask why it might feel easier to imagine one small ethnic group (0.2% of the world population) as the root of all evil, and what purpose that thinking serves. Explain that scapegoating is not only unjust, but also prevents the search for practical solutions to real problems. Replacing meaningful problem-solving with conspiratorial blame games harms everyone, including the children and young people who are drawn into these ideas.

DISCUSS GLOBAL EVENTS CAREFULLY

Acknowledge that it is entirely normal to be concerned about global injustice. However, ask why the Middle East can play such a central role in some discussions, when other conflicts and humanitarian crises, including in Yemen, Sudan, China, or Myanmar, may receive far less attention in the UK. Familiarise yourself with the IHRA definition of antisemitism. Question the idea that Jewish UK citizens are collectively responsible for the government of Israel. Use careful analogies: would it be fair to blame a British person of non-Jewish heritage for the actions of another country's government? If not, the same principle should apply to British Jewish citizens.

Meet Our Expert

The National Holocaust Centre & Museum is the only national museum in the UK dedicated to teaching and learning the lessons from the Holocaust, including education for younger children. The centre's statement of purpose is to provide a permanent memorial to the victims of the Holocaust.

See full reference list on our website