



St Nicholas' Preparatory School Summer Term 2018 Review



Head's Welcome

Dear Parents

What a year it has been!! It seems incredible to think that the academic year has come to an end, but it is perhaps testament to just how busy we have been. The Summer Term always goes quickly, but with everything going on at St Nicholas' this summer, time has passed in the blink of an eye!

We started the term with KS2 heading to PGL, and the whole School community hasn't looked back since, embracing the challenges put in front of them and really showing the spark that we look for in our learners. The St Nicholas' curriculum is very different to any other School, and that unique style of learning builds unique individuals, who are showing remarkable intellectual maturity throughout the school to recognise that learning can take place anywhere and at anytime.

Many Schools thrive on the promise of developing 'life long learners', but then insist on preparing pupils for the future by bombarding them with examination papers. As this academic year draws to a close, I am delighted to say that we are producing children whom have a genuine love of learning, not solely because it gives them good scores in exams, but because it gives them skills for life that they see are applicable beyond the classroom.

I am incredibly proud to be Headteacher at St Nicholas', and every day I am inspired by the actions of the children here. They have worked exceptionally hard throughout the year, and the following pages show this as well as how busy we have been. We are already looking forward to September, and most importantly, I believe the children are too as we continue to develop in the future.

I hope you all have a wonderful Summer break.

Best wishes
Mr M. Donaldson

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Reception

As Reception come to the end of their first year in School, they can look back with pride on an incredibly busy year. This term has seen a dinosaur hunt in the playground and exploring fossils, as well as studying the life cycle of a butterfly in the mini beasts topic, and they even found time to make marmalade sandwiches for the teddy bear's picnic!!



Year 1/2



Year 1 & 2 have again been fantastic this term, and have again covered so many different topics. They have however paid particular focus to different animal kingdoms, and it was great to see such great work on desert life, Arctic life and sea life. They also worked brilliantly on the collaborative task going a 3D bedroom, using junk from home to make some excellent models.

Year 3/4



Year 3&4 have again been fantastically busy in the Summer Term, and have crammed in loads of different topics. The term started with a brilliant week at PGL, facing fears, strolling on the beach and braving some horrific weather, all whilst developing a lot of new skills. They've covered Thor's hammer in History and climate change in Geography - who needs the Avengers when we have Year 3&4 saving the world!!

Our Year 6 class have been brilliant at setting a positive example throughout this year, and this was particularly evident in CIPS Week when they were appointed leaders in groups and organised our Summer Fair. We are very proud of the efforts that they have put into this academic year, and wish them the best of luck as they head off to face new challenges at Senior School. Well done for a successful year, and come back and see us soon!!



YEAR 5/6

CIPS

Every term we talk about CIPS, and every term the children exceed expectations!! We've developed a really strong understanding of why we study CIPS, and this helps everyone to progress and take responsibility for their learning.



This term has again seen a huge range of activities. These have spread from thinking about the future of the planet by completing eco challenges to looking back thousands of years to learn a little Ancient Greek. What was most impressive though was when children actually came up with a challenge themselves - the Random topic task - and created a presentation on an entirely random subject in a mere 72 hours!!

It's also been great to link CIPS to our Core Values, and seeing the children work collaboratively on a number of projects was fantastic. The creativity shown by some pupils in designing a bedroom or on projects on Arctic life were wonderful to see, and show how important it is for children to interpret the task on their own terms.



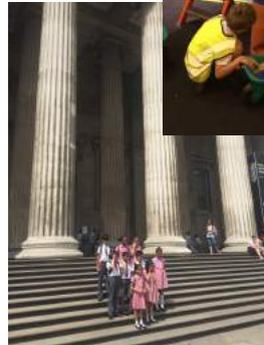


CIPS Week was a fantastic way to celebrate all of the skills that we have developed over the course of the year, as well as rewarding the hard work that has gone into our studying!!

Our Art & DT Day gave children a chance test a range of creative skills, and we made holograms, mosaics and pop up cards, as well design the St Nicholas' tree which will soon be on display in the front office.



Our trip to the Science Museum and the British Museum allowed us to discover many different artefacts, as well as explore different materials used by the Three Little Pigs



Amazingly, we managed to learn and perform a whole Shakespeare play in just one day!! Our production of 'A Midsummer Night's Dream' included many memorable performances, and took great confidence and ambition to succeed!!



CIPS WEEK



We welcomed Jonathan's Jungle Roadshow to the School, along with all of his friends, from Millions the giant millipede to Spinderella the tarantula. We faced a lot of uncertainties and had a great day learning about such a range of exotic animals!

We ended the week with our Summer Fair and Charity and Community Day. Our visit to Ogilvy Court was a great success, with the art and music performances bringing many smiles to the audience. Older pupils completed a sponsored walk for Toilet Twinning Charity, and then our Summer Fair included candy floss, face painting and splat the teacher!!



LAMDA SUCCESSES

After lots of hard work and preparation, our pupils did an amazing job in this year's LAMDA examinations. There were plenty of memorable recitals, along with fantastic volume and clarity in their performance, along with terrific technique and interpretations, resulting in a great deal of success. Everybody achieved at least a Merit, but we achieved 11 Distinctions, including some amazing scores of 93% & 94%!!



PGL



Children had an amazing time at PGL to start this term. The weather was beautiful until the last day, but even the driving rain couldn't dampen our spirits as we tackled buggy building, abseiling, high ropes and many more activities with enthusiasm. It was terrific to see everyone have a go at every activity, and we left with lots of new skills and some fantastic memories!

Community



We've again been incredibly busy in the community this term, with more fantastic trips, wonderful events and interesting visitors coming to the School.



We've had visits from the London Fire Brigade, Transport for London and Brent Police to help us to get a better understanding of people in our community, and Fairs, Afternoon Teas and Celebration Afternoons have all allowed us to enjoy a wonderfully strong community.

Thank you to everyone in the community who contribute and attended our various events. We look forward to seeing you again in the future!

Future Term Dates

September

Wednesday 5th - First day of Autumn Term

Week of Monday 10th - PE and Swimming Lessons begin

Thursday 13th - Information Evening

Week of Monday 17th - After school clubs begin

Friday 28th - Macmillan Coffee Morning

October

Friday 12th - Academic Alerts sent to parents

Monday 15th - EYFS Parent's Evening; Six-week check

Week of Monday 22nd - Half Term Holiday

Monday 29th - Autumn Term 2 begins

November

Week of Monday 5th - Parent Meeting Week

Thursday 8th - Celebration Afternoon

Week of 12th - Anti Bullying Week

Week of 19th - Y1-6 Examination Week

December

Thursday 6th - Christmas Concert

Friday 7th - Christmas Fair

Friday 7th - Reports sent home

Monday 10th - Headmaster's Afternoon Tea

Friday 14th - Celebration Assembly / End of term (noon)

January 2019

Tuesday 8th January - Start of Spring Term

Have a happy and safe Summer holiday, and we look forward to seeing you on 5th September
for another exciting year at St Nicholas'.

