



ST KATHARINE'S CE
SCHOOL

Friendship, Effort, Respect, & Honesty

Friday 7th February 2020

NEWSLETTER No. 11

Our Value This Term Is... *Justice*



Dear Parents,

Where did that half term disappear to? We find ourselves a week away from the February half term, the snowdrops are up, the sky is a little lighter in the morning and January is behind us.

We have had another busy fortnight. Oak Class were very busy making cakes for their cake sale in support of the charities helping the recovery after the Australian Bush Fires. It became clear to Miss Denton that the children were very worried about what they were seeing on the television and the cake sale was the outcome of their class discussions. They raised a marvellous £135.00 – thank you parents who I am certain supported some of the baking!

On Sunday our choir took part in a Candlemas service in St Katharine's Church. They processed the baby Jesus to the front of the church as they sang. This service is in celebration of the time when Mary and Joseph presented Jesus at the temple, shortly after his birth. The children sang beautifully and their contribution was much enjoyed by the congregation.

This week has been signposted as Children's Mental Health Week. We have held collective worships and class discussions and activities around the theme of *'Find your Brave.'* We have been talking with the children about the importance of sharing our worries and feelings and that to talk about something is a brave thing to do. We intend to return to this theme with the children to embed a culture where talking and sharing becomes normal, lessening the need for any bravery.

Sycamore class have had a busy week with Netball and Tag Rugby tournaments. We competed hard in the Netball tournament and the feedback was that everyone played hard and Mr Sandall reported some really good peer to peer support. As I write the children are just finishing the Tag Rugby. We will find out on Monday how they got on....

Niki Jones

Principal

Recruitment of our new Admin officer

Last week we underwent the recruitment process of our new administrative officer. We were really pleased with the number and calibre of candidates that we managed to attract. After a full day of interviews, we were delighted to offer Mrs Hayley Thomas the role and even more delighted that she accepted! Mrs Thomas will begin work on 24th February (Mrs Stagg's final week).

We look forward to welcoming her onto the team.

Bark Spreaders

Thank you, thank you, thank you... to all the spreaders of bark. The playground, for now, is no longer mud coloured.

A letter from the PCC

We have received a letter from the PCC thanking our parent community for their generous contributions at the end of the Nativity. You gave an incredible £268.50 to the collection which will give the church some much needed help towards the costs incurred each month.

Sunflowers Recruit needed

Sunflowers at Grafton are looking to recruit for their before school and after school clubs. Please see below:

'Our clubs have a maximum of 14 children, have great space to play and are well resourced. Hours top and tail the working day:

- Breakfast Club 7.30am to 9.15am - functional and efficient - make sure everyone has breakfast and gets to school on time
- After School 2.30pm to 6.15pm - much more space for adventure and creativity

We have 21'ish hours available - either 1 person or maybe a couple of part-time roles of 10'ish hours per week, or even 3 roles of 7

hours. It is a term-time only contract which is always attractive!

We have a diverse team who work brilliantly together to offer great out of school care - energetic, committed, happy in the company of children and are super team players. New team members would ideally have a clean driving licence and be happy to drive our minibus, but this is not essential. Training and support provided and good rates of pay.' If you are interested in a role such as this, please contact the Sunflowers at Grafton office:

You can call Sue on 01672 810478

Or email on : admin@sunflowers-grafton.org.uk

Reception Height & Weight visit

The school nurse will be rescheduling her visit for Reception Heights and Weights as she was unwell on the 5th February. We will let you know when this has been rearranged.

Changes to Pick Up arrangements

If your arrangements for pick up change, please call into the school office and leave a message. By all means follow this up with an email but a phone call is your first port of call. Emails will not always be seen but we always check for messages throughout the school day and particularly at the very end of the day.

Nut & Sesame Free School

We are a Nut and Sesame Free School.

Please note the addition of sesame in this paragraph. We have children in school with severe nut and sesame allergies. We are a 'nut/sesame free' school. This includes packed lunches, mid-morning snacks, birthday treats etc.

Please be vigilant when packing food for your children to bring to school.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

February	
Monday 3 rd – 7 th	Mental Health Week
Friday 7 th	Year 5 & 6 Tag Rugby
Tuesday 11 th	Year 5 & 6 Hockey
Friday 14 th	Last Day of Term 3
Friday 28 th	All Stars – Cricket roadshow KS1

March	
Thursday 5 th and Friday 6 th	Year 6 Bikeability
Friday 6 th	World Book Day
Wednesday 11 th	Mrs Stagg's Tea Party in the hall – 2:30pm
Thursday 12 th March	KS2 SATs information evening 3.15 p.m. crèche available
Friday 13 th and Saturday 14 th	Dance Festival
Thursday 19 th	Performances by 'Stripes' Year 4 and 5 <i>Details to follow</i>
	KS1 SATs information evening 3.15 pm. crèche available
Thursday 26 th	Year 3 & 4 Handball Details to follow
Friday 27 th	PTA Bunny Bop
Tuesday 31 st	Year 5 & 6 Swimming Gala <i>Details to follow</i>
	Oak Class to Ramsbury Estates <i>Details to follow</i>
April	
Wednesday 1 st	STEM Exhibition up in the school Hall
Thursday 2 nd	KS1 visit Great Bedwyn school to see The Shelburne Ensemble am
Friday 3 rd	Easter Service in Church at 9:30
	Reports home for KS1 & 2
	Last Day of Term 4

Remaining T D Days 2019/20

Thursday 23rd April 2020