



ST KATHARINE'S CE
SCHOOL

Friendship, Effort, Respect, & Honesty

Friday 22nd January 2021

NEWSLETTER No. 10

Our Value This Term Is... *Hope*



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Dear Parents,

It has been a busy couple of weeks for all of us as we adjust once again to a period of national lockdown. It has been well documented in the news that this lock down is hitting individuals, families and communities even harder than the first one; I think the time of year is playing no small part in the difficulties that this lockdown is presenting us with. I hope therefore that this letter finds you in 'good enough' spirits and finding a way to cope that works for you and your family.

We have been really impressed with the response to home learning; the vast majority of children are engaging with the lessons and activities that are being assigned by their teachers. As I look at SeeSaw there are so many highlights that bring a smile to my face. Thank you all for your continued support of the children, helping not only to keep them occupied but most importantly in helping them to keep their learning moving forward.

Some of you have been in touch asking valuable questions about the learning on offer and providing valuable feedback. As I said in my previous newsletter, getting this right for everyone and meeting the needs of all families of all shapes and sizes is a difficult if not impossible task. Please know that we are trying to keep what we know to be true about high quality teaching and learning at the heart of our remote practice. We are trying to think, in the first instance, about what we want the children to learn and then plan the best way to deliver that learning (with the obvious restrictions that we have at the moment). This will vary according to the age and stage of development of the children. Please do continue to share any concerns or questions that you have with your child's class teacher or with me. We are always happy to help.

We will be beginning phone calls home in the coming weeks. These are aimed at providing you with an opportunity to discuss how things are going and for us to provide advice and support should you need it. Please do not wait however if you feel the need to call before we get to you; the school answer machine is checked regularly each day or you can email using the admin@stkatharines.excalibur.org.uk address. Please do not let any of your concerns get too big before you ask for help.

Finally, thank you all for supporting the children to come along to the virtual Celebration Worship last week. It was a real highlight of the week for the St Katharine's team. I hope to see as many of you as possible this week at 2:00 pm. Please follow the same process as you did last week. Parents are very welcome to join – please don't feel like you have to stay off camera!

With kind regards

Niki Jones

Principal

Please note the next item is from the last newsletter. Please send things in if you are able – it would be great to collect sent items together and share them: thoughts, reflections, photographs... anything on the theme of *Hope* ...

Our Value this Term

As most of you will know, we take a value each term to explore in our collective worship. Since September however, we have been exploring a range of themes that came out of the first lockdown. The children came up with a list of things such as; *Friendship, The Natural World, Family and Love* that had emerged for them as important things during the first period of time away from school. This term I have chosen *Hope* as our value. It seemed appropriate and I would like to touch on that theme in the whole school celebration worships over the coming weeks. I would love it if children could send in some reflections on that theme; something that has made them feel hopeful, something that would make others feel hopeful or their thoughts about what Hope is. It might be a few words, a poem, a quote, a drawing or a longer piece of writing (if they are inspired to do so). They can send these via SeeSaw for teachers to pass on to me or you can send 'words' as an email *for the attention of Ms Jones*. I look forward to hearing from our deep thinking children!

