



ST KATHARINE'S CE  
SCHOOL

*Friendship, Effort, Respect, & Honesty*

Friday 7<sup>th</sup> May

NEWSLETTER No: 16

*Our Value This Term Is...*

*Creativity*



*Dear Parents,*

Time is rattling by and slowly it feels like life is beginning to settle down. As education practitioners it certainly feels like Covid logistics conversations are taking a bit more of a back seat in our everyday lives. We are very much looking forward to the next stage of the road map and hope that before the end of this academic year we will be in a position to confirm some of the end of year events that at present are still *'to be confirmed'* in the school calendar.

You will see from the calendar that we are now able to plan trips and visits that take us out of school or bring visitors in. These are tentative steps but steps that I hope will bring increasing colour into our curriculum.

This week Sycamore were supported in their learning by Mrs Lee; her expert knowledge on the workings of the human heart brought another dimension to this block of learning. Chestnut and Sycamore took part in a virtual music and drama workshop by Digital Stripes. The focus of this streamed event was on children's well-being and friendship and again added another dimension to the children's school experience.

The children are working really hard in school and really seem to have hit their stride in terms of focus and engagement. Their learning muscles are certainly toning up. As such, we are beginning to see some genuine progress and as a whole school picture, whilst there are aspects of learning that require our focus, we are not seeing the dramatic, negative impact, of lost learning time, that you may have read about in the press. This is in no small part due to the extremely high levels of engagement in home learning that we saw in both periods of lock down and your continued support for learning since then.

We look forward to the weeks ahead and the consistency and increasing normality that we hope this brings us. When I next write to you it will be near to the end of May. I hope by then that we might have had a bit more sunshine and warmth. In the meantime, we will rely on the sunshine and warmth that your children bring into school with them every day!

*Niki Jones*

Principal

*'From little acorns, great oaks grow'*



### **The Big Ask**

A parent mail came out this week explaining that we are about to complete this survey, in school, with our KS2 children and how to complete it online with your child if your child is in Hazel or Oak classes.

### **Parent Consultations**

Parent consultations are now finished. Some of you did not answer your telephones when teachers called in your designated slot. You will have been left a message in this instance. Due to the number of calls that needed to be made you may not have been able to call back. If you did not manage a consultation and would like to speak with your child's class teacher, please contact admin@ and we will do our best to accommodate you. Please note that full reports will be with you on Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> July and we will arrange another round of consultations for any parents that wish to discuss the contents of that report or who have concerns that they would like to talk through prior to the end of this academic year.

We are in the process of thinking through our processes around communicating assessment outcomes and progress with parents across the school year and will be sharing our thinking with you before any decisions are arrived at.

### **Pick up**

There are quite a few children being collected more than 10 minutes late at the end of the school day. Please be aware that with the staggered finish time the school day has already been extended by 15minutes. We very often have meetings, video calls or collaborative tasks planned into that time and teachers always have a significant amount of work to do in order that they are well prepared before their next teaching day. With that in mind

needing to wait for children to be collected impacts on our ability to get on with the next part of our day and in turn on hours worked and workload. Please support us by collecting children promptly at the end of the school day.

*Thank you for your help with this*

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

<i>May</i>	
Wednesday 12 <sup>th</sup>	Chestnut Stone Age activities
Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup>	Sycamore Milk Yard visit
Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup>	Reception Class vision screening
Tuesday 25 <sup>th</sup>	Oak Class Great Fire of London <u>forest</u> session
Tuesday 27 <sup>th</sup>	Sycamore Smoothie Day
Friday 28 <sup>th</sup>	Last Day of Term 5
<i>June</i>	
Monday 7 <sup>th</sup>	First day of Term 6
Monday 14 <sup>th</sup> – Friday 18 <sup>th</sup>	<i>planned</i> Year 6 Red Ridge Residential
<b>Monday 14<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Oak Class visit to Marlborough and the Merchant’s House am only</b>
Friday 17 <sup>th</sup>	St John’s information evening for Y6 parents
Monday 21 <sup>st</sup> , Wed 23 <sup>th</sup> – Friday 25 <sup>th</sup>	<i>planned</i> Y6 Bikeability <i>details to follow</i>
Monday 28 <sup>th</sup>	St John’s uniform fitting evening
Monday 28 <sup>th</sup>	<i>planned</i> whole school photograph
Wednesday 30 <sup>th</sup>	<i>planned</i> Primary Summer Show Case <i>details to follow</i>
<i>July</i>	
Thursday 1 <sup>st</sup> and Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Y6 to Y7 Transition Days @ St Johns

Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Reports to Parents <u>all</u> year groups
	<b>Move up morning &amp; new reception school visit</b>
Monday 12 <sup>th</sup>	Optional Parent Consultations this week
<b>Monday 12<sup>th</sup> &amp; Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> July</b>	<b>‘Healthy Me’ &amp; ‘Adventurous Me’ Whole school activity days <i>details to follow</i></b>
Tuesday 20 <sup>th</sup>	<i>planned</i> Sports Day am
Wednesday 21 <sup>st</sup>	<i>planned (back up) am</i> Sports Day
Thursday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Gem Day <i>details to follow</i>
Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Last Day of Term 6 <u>Early Closure 1:15pm</u>

*\*we have decided that we will resume the Key Dates Planner in September 2021. For the remainder of this school year we will use this section of the fortnightly newsletter to inform you of all upcoming dates. Please note that new dates will be in **bold** each time.*

### **T D Days 2020/21**

We have **no more** TD days this academic year