



ST KATHARINE'S CE  
SCHOOL

*Friendship, Effort, Respect, & Honesty*

Friday 9<sup>th</sup> July

NEWSLETTER No: 20

*Our Value This Term Is...*

*Peace*



*Dear Parents,*

At this end of term we certainly seem to enter into some sort of a time warp as the weeks start to really flash by. This is the penultimate newsletter of the year and as usual it is full of reminders and bits of information to help you through to the end of the term. Please read it carefully to ensure that your child/ren have the things that they need in school on the right days.

This has been a very busy week for Hazel Class in particular, with a trip to the Stoney Bridge nature reserve in Marlborough on Wednesday and ending the week with a visit to Warren Farm to find out how milk is made. On their return from the nature reserve the children were full of stories about the creatures they had seen; from bullheads, tadpoles and frogs to *'golden coloured krill that is the same food that whales eat'*. Again, it is our intention to build these precious experiences into our curriculum plans; identifying field trips and visits that really help to bring learning to life.

Another (much missed) feature of our calendar this week has been the return of our vicar, Michael McHugh who typically comes in to school, on a Wednesday morning, to lead an act of collective worship. This week was the turn of our Key Stage Two bubble. It was lovely to have Michael into school and to see the children sitting together in the hall for worship. It has been a long time since that was possible and it gave us a glimmer of the normality that we all hope for on return in September. The next couple of weeks are a time of much forward planning in school. Identifying actions for the coming year, areas of improvement and development and planning our 2021-22 curriculum. We are all excited to begin the year in a more typical way and once again invite our parent

community beyond the school gate. We are conscious that for some of you the gate is as far as you have been able to travel. We will remember to be properly grateful for this normality when it returns.

*Niki Jones*

Principal

*'From little acorns, great oaks grow'*



### **England v Italy on Sunday**

It has not passed us by that there is a very important football match being played on Sunday. I am of course very aware that this will lead to many of the children having quite a late night (*fingers crossed there is no extra time or penalties because England are able to win it in the 90 minutes available!*). We are however asking that children attend school as normal. Our activity days (see below) have been planned well in advance and at no small cost to the school. It would throw quite a spanner in the works to change our plans at the 11<sup>th</sup> hour. These days have the dual purpose of allowing our teaching team to work together in preparation for the next academic year. We are expecting the children to be tired, fingers crossed they will be tired but full of the joy that winning brings! We have said to the children that if England win, they can wear red and white as part of their PE kit on that day, a football strip of their choosing or (of course) an England shirt by way of celebration.

### **'Healthy Me' and 'Adventurous Me' Activity Days: Monday 12<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> July**

Next week we have In2Sport coming into school to support the running of 2 activity days. These have been carefully planned around two themes and will include activities with In2sport, those led by our learning support assistants and on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of the two days, forest adventure sessions led by Mrs Arnold.

Please ensure that your child is dressed for PE on Monday and has a refillable water bottle with them and that on Wednesday they are dressed to take part in sport but with long leggings/tracksuit bottoms and a long-sleeved layer so that they are 'tick safe' when in the woodland – they will need a refillable water bottle on that day also.

Lunches and playtimes will run as normal.

### Parent Consultations

Parent consultation are available on Tuesday and Thursday of next week for anyone who would like to discuss the contents of the school report. Please come into school to sign up or call the school office and we can do that on your behalf.

### End of Term Reminders

This is sadly not our typically busy end of summer term, with a few events not on the calendar but there are still a few dates and times to note:

- ★ **Friday 16<sup>th</sup> July is Gem Day.** We will be spending this in two separate bubbles this year. Oak and Hazel Class will have an outdoor picnic in the spinney with games on the field in the afternoon. Chestnut and Sycamore Class will have a walk to The Monument, a picnic lunch and then return for the end of the school day. **All children** will need to come dressed for forest school; appropriate layers, long sleeves and trousers, a light raincoat and appropriate footwear for the activity. School timings will remain the same. If your child in in Chestnut or Sycamore and has a Sue Brady Lunch, you will need to cancel the lunch and send your child with a packed lunch of their own. Children in Oak and Hazel will still have their Sue Brady lunch provided.
- ★ **Bubble Sports Day**  
Whilst we are not opening our doors to parents for sports day this year, we have been keen to offer the children the chance to take part in a bit of cross-class competition. These will take place in the morning and then afternoon of **Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> July**. Children will again need to come to school dressed in their PE kits.
- ★ **Leavers' Service**  
Our leavers' service will take place during the morning of **Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> July**, starting at 9:30am. Year 6 parents are invited to join us. Year 6 parents have seen separate communication about this.
- ★ **Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> July Early Closure**  
Please collect Key Stage 1 and Reception children at **12:55pm** and Key Stage 2 children at **1:15pm** we hope this will avoid too much congestion in the lane on the last day. Please default to the pickup time of your eldest child.

### SRE Policy Reminder and Working Group

We are now beginning to work with our new Jigsaw scheme of work for PSHE (personal, social and

health education) and SRE (sex and relationships education). There are some significant changes to the requirements of the SRE curriculum and these have been captured in our new SRE policy, a copy of which was sent to you all for consultation in May. You were invited to comment on the policy if you had any queries or concerns with its contents. At the same time, I asked for anyone interested in being part of a parent working party, to look at the new curriculum, to get in touch. I have a few names on my list and this is therefore a reminder to any of you that might still want to be involved to let me know before September. For those of you that have registered interest, I will be in touch in the early part of the new academic year to set up our first meeting.

### Summer Reading Challenge

We are hoping that our children will take part in the summer reading challenge produced by the Reading Agency and delivered by Wiltshire Libraries. Children are encouraged to read 6 or more library books, including eBooks, during the summer holidays. It is free to access and will run from Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> July until Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> September. The children will need a library card to borrow books, for more information visit:

<https://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/libraries-home> . We will be talking to children in assembly on 19<sup>th</sup> July about this and sharing with them the [following video clip](#). Please feel free to share this with your child and please encourage them to get involved. Any reading throughout the summer holidays is valuable and we really do see the impact of this when the children return in September. It has been such a year of identifying gaps and supporting children with lost learning and the children have made great progress throughout the school; it will be such a shame to let this slip now. Reading is such an important component of successful learning – please support us by making this something children don't drop during the summer break.

### Race to the King Ultra-marathon

I am sure you would like to join me in congratulating Russell Walker, father of Oliver in Year 4, for completing the 'The Race to the King' challenge, a 53-mile Ultra-marathon, in June this year. It was Russell's 1st Ultra-marathon. Quite a challenge I am sure you will agree! Russell generously raised funds for the St. Katharine's PTA. We are very grateful to Russell for his support of the school. Together with matched funding provided by the Ocado Foundation, Russell raised a

massive £1510. What a fantastic achievement and thank you on behalf of us all.

### Sue Brady Meals

We are planning to reintroduce hot meals from Sue Brady for lunch at school in September 2021. The seasonal menu will go live for orders on Friday 16<sup>th</sup> July and close on Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> August. If you would like to order Sue Brady lunch for next term, please remember to go on to the website [www.suebradycatering.com](http://www.suebradycatering.com) to order.

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

<i>July</i>	
Tuesday 13 <sup>th</sup> and Thursday 15 <sup>th</sup> 4:00 – 5:30	Optional Parent <b>telephone</b> Consultations this week <i>These consultations are for parents who would like to discuss any concerns they may have, having read the annual report.</i>
Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> & Wednesday 14 <sup>th</sup> July	'Healthy Me' & 'Adventurous Me' Whole school activity days
Friday 16 <sup>th</sup>	Gem Day
Tuesday 20 <sup>th</sup> July	Split Key Stages Sports Day <i>all children in PE kit today</i>
Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Leaver's Service Y6 <i>details to follow</i>
	Last Day of Term 6 <u>Early Closure 1:15pm</u>
<i>September</i>	
Wednesday 1 <sup>st</sup>	TD Days No children in school
	<b>New Reception Transition Visit 1:00 – 2:30</b> <i>This to replace the planned visit at the end of T6</i>
Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup>	First Day of Term 1 <i>Reception 2021 parents see alternative arrangements previously sent</i>

### T D Days 2020/21

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

### TD Days 2021/22

- Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> September
- Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> October (**this represents a change of the dates originally published**)
- Friday 12<sup>th</sup> November
- Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> January
- Friday 25<sup>th</sup> July

### Please Note

The TD Day planned for **15<sup>th</sup> November** has been replaced by the TD Day on **20<sup>th</sup> October**.

\*We will close at 1:15pm on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2022.