



ST KATHARINE'S CE  
SCHOOL

*Friendship, Effort, Respect, & Honesty*

Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> July

NEWSLETTER No: 21

*Our Value This Term Is...*

*Peace*



*Dear Parents,*

At the end of this school year, that we have all lived through, it seems fitting that this term our value has been that of Peace. The children have shared the places that they feel most peaceful in, the things that help them to feel peaceful and talked about how to change how we feel when we are not peaceful on the inside. It is my hope that you all manage to find a little peace this summer. That may seem a strange suggestion as your homes will be full of children, but it is my hope for you all nonetheless. I would like to use this chance, in the final Newsletter of the school year, to reflect, once again, on how genuinely privileged I feel to lead this special school. To be surrounded by this team of incredible staff, that each bring so much of themselves to their work and by our community of parents who genuinely support the work we are doing, is something I treasure. That is in addition to being able to come to work everyday to be surrounded by wonderful learners who know and understand that effort, determination, kindness and compassion are important in order that we lead happy lives and make the world we live in a better place.

It has been a difficult time and there have been many things lost. For us, having been on this side of the school gate however we have seen how engaged and happy the children are in their learning and how at times things have felt very normal indeed. We have missed our interactions with parents and being able to invite you into school to share some of that learning with you. We are acutely aware that for some of you, the inside of the building is a mystery to you! We have enjoyed putting the 2021-22 calendar of events together, filled with 'share our learning sessions',

nativity plays, sports days and other opportunities to bring you in to school. It is my sincere hope that the year will unfold as planned. If nothing else this year we have learnt how to adapt, bend and invent. If needed we will do that again; keeping our focus on the learning, happiness and well-being of the children.

Have a wonderful summer; please stay safe and well. We look forward to seeing you all on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> September.

*Niki Jones*

Principal

*'From little acorns, great oaks grow'*



### **Goodbyes**

It has been very sad not to be able to say a proper goodbye to our Year 6 leavers. We were all very disappointed and not a little upset to have this final week in school spoiled by Covid and the need for this class to self-isolate. That said, the children of Sycamore have yet again managed to grab victory from the jaws of defeat (with not a little help from Mr Sandall) to have some fun in their home learning and maintain their sense of class and community. Whilst we know that we cannot hope to replicate the atmosphere and feeling of an end of year service in church, we are in the process of adapting our plans for a virtual service and will do our very best to create a special (alternative) memory for the children.

This group of children joined the school at the same time as I began my headship; we have grown and learnt together. I am proud of each and every one of them and feel excited about the journey they are about to embark upon. Good luck to all 18 Year 6's; as with all St Katharine's children, they will always have a special place in our hearts. We hope our leavers and their families know that they are *always* welcome back.

We also say goodbye to Imogen Sayer in Chestnut Class; she and her family have moved to Woodborough and she begins Year 4 at Woodborough Primary School. Joanne and Janelle Boachie, also in Chestnut Class; they are moving to London and again will begin Year 4 and Year 5 in their new school in Muswell Hill and we say goodbye to Minna D'ath, we wish her lots of luck as she moves into Year 6.

It is always difficult to say goodbye but for all our leavers this year it represents a threshold to new

adventures and not a little excitement on the road ahead.

### **Books, Books, Wonderful Books...**

We have been overwhelmed by your generosity in support of our curriculum development. We have a fantastic number of book tokens to spend throughout next academic year at the Whitehorse Bookshop in Marlborough. We will keep you updated with our progress and the titles that we are buying in support of our blocks of learning. We have designed a label, that will sit in the front of all the books bought, outlining the curriculum project and highlighting the generous contribution made by parents in support of that.

*Thank you*

### **Summer Holiday Learning**

There has been so much talk of lost learning in the past 18 months it would be hard for any of you not to have panicked at some point and to have worried about the impact on your child.

The children have come back strongly since we returned in March and have been working really hard across all of our classes. What stands out to me, and other professionals who visit our school, is that the children understand how to learn and that they are a large part of that equation. We feel strongly that the work we have done around 'purple learning', building the children's understanding that learning is meant to feel challenging and that it will involve mistake making, has really paid off during this disrupted time. Of course, we have seen some impact but that does not lead us to think that the summer should be spent in daily home learning. Time spent relaxing, playing and spending time with family and friends are vital for children. So too is time spent doing very little indeed! That said there are some things that you and of course the children can do that will support them when returning in September. Keeping regular reading as a part of your child's routine is important; both children practising the skill and sharing stories, rich in vocabulary, together. Practising counting, simple mental calculations, telling the time and times tables all support learning in maths. Children who have fluency in these areas have fewer barriers when calculating and problem solving. Class teachers have put together a short summary of some suggestions and resources that you might consider over the coming weeks. You will find this attached to the parent mail along with this newsletter.

### **Summer Reading Challenge**

This is a reminder of the item sent out in Newsletter 20. Please visit:

<https://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/libraries-home> to find out how to take part in the reading challenge with your child. The [following video clip](#) may also help.

### **Calendar 2021-22 Change**

The DfE have now confirmed that schools will have an **extra day's holiday** next year as the additional bank holiday for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee falls within the May half term. That means pupils will have 189 school days instead of 190. We have been asked that we add this additional day to an existing holiday. We have made that additional day of holiday **Monday 25<sup>th</sup> July 2022** which was previously a TD day. The TD day will now be **Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> July**. The last day of the summer term 2022 will therefore now be **Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> July**; *we will close at 1:15pm on that day*. We are sorry for any confusion that this might have caused. A copy of the new 2021-22 calendar is attached to the ParentMail and you can find a copy on the school website.

### **National Geographic Competition**

We have been alerted to an opportunity for children to have their say about climate change. Please see the link below for details of a competition that gives children the chance to write 200 words about their vision for what climate action they would take if they were in charge. Successful entrants will have the chance to record their 200 words as a speech that will be played to world leaders when they come together for COP26 in November 2021.

There are some great prizes on offer for both winning children and the winner's school. Please look to see if it is something your child would like to take part in.

<https://www.nationalgrid.com/cop26/voices-for-a-green-future>

### **New Safeguarding Email Address**

We have a new email address for parents to use if they have a safeguarding concern during times of school closure. This email address will be regularly monitored during the summer holiday.

[safeguarding@stkatharines.excalibur.org.uk](mailto:safeguarding@stkatharines.excalibur.org.uk)

## September Plans

The latest guidance (updated 19<sup>th</sup> July 2021) gives full details of the planning that we should have in place for the first Term of the 2021/22 academic year. Our Covid risk assessment will be updated, 'Outbreak Management Plans' will also be in place when we resume in September. In the main, school will feel perhaps the most normal that it has done in recent times. We will no longer separate the children into 'bubbles' and will be able to re-introduce some whole school activity such as collective worship. We will determine what routines we will keep; ventilation, regular cleaning of frequently touched surfaces and handwashing will remain as part of our practise to help avoid outbreaks. As it stands, we no longer have a role to play as an agency of track and trace. If we have a case, PHE will discuss with parents to establish close contacts and those individuals will be asked to self-isolate. The school may be asked to support this process.

**We would therefore like to resume our full school day for all children as follows:**

- ★ **8:45 – 8:55** drop off (registers close at 9:00am *please note that children arriving after registers close will be given a late unauthorised register mark for the morning session*). Children can use the turning circle or come onto the playground to line up in their year groups. We strongly encourage parents of Y1-6 to leave their child at the school gate. All children have been managing this successfully – it makes for a smooth start to the day.
- ★ **10:30** morning break for all children
- ★ **12:15 – 1:15** lunch; we plan for all children to eat in the school hall from September
- ★ **3:15** collection; children are collected from the playground – teachers will communicate (for individual classes) where they will dismiss the children from and where it will be useful for you to stand.

**Please note that if you need to speak to teachers, beyond a brief conversation that can take place on the school gate, please ask for an appointment by emailing the school office. We always get back to you quickly and will happily arrange a telephone call or a face-to-face meeting.**

*It seems remarkable for us to be planning a complete return to school life as we once knew it. It has been an unpredictable time and whilst I am hopeful that the plans outlined will be the reality in September, please know that any changes, in response to legislation, will be communicated as soon as we are made aware of it.*

## 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. **When ordering for next academic year, please remember to put in the correct year group for your child.**

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

<i>July</i>	
<i>Have a safe and restful summer holiday everyone!</i>	
	
<i>September</i>	
Wednesday 1 <sup>st</sup>	<p>TD Day No children in school</p> <p><b>New Reception Transition Visit 1:00 – 2:30</b> <i>This to replace the planned visit at the end of T6</i></p>
Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup>	<p>First Day of Term 1 <i>Reception 2021 parents see alternative arrangements previously sent</i></p>

### 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 22<sup>nd</sup> July (**this is now a TD day as Monday 25<sup>th</sup> is now an additional day of holiday**).

### 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 Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> July 2022 (**previously Friday 22<sup>nd</sup>**).

# Other things you might want to know...

**Braeside Holiday Camps!**  
Adventure - Challenge - Fun

**Dates: 26<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup> July**  
9<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup> August (no 12<sup>th</sup>)  
16<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> August

**Age 8 – 14 years**  
**ALL DAY - £36**

**Drop Off – 8:30am – 9:00am**  
Gates will be closed and locked from 9:15am

**Pick Up 4:30pm – 5:00pm**  
Gates will be open for pick up from 4:30pm

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
26 <sup>th</sup> – 30 <sup>th</sup> July	Climbing Wall High Ropes - Leap of Faith Compass Skills GPS Orienteering	Zip Wire High Ropes - Parallel Poles Problem Solving Games Photo Search	Absailing High Ropes - Crate Stack Lifeline Orienteering	Climbing Wall Low Ropes Problem Solving Games Wide Games	<b>Survival Day</b> Fire Lighting Shelter Building Willow Weaving
9 <sup>th</sup> – 13 <sup>th</sup> August	<b>Mountain Biking Day</b>	<b>Water Sports Day</b> Canoeing Paddleboarding Kayaking	<b>Water Sports Day</b> Canoeing Paddleboarding Kayaking	No Club Running	<b>Survival Day</b> Fire Lighting Shelter Building Willow Weaving
16 <sup>th</sup> – 20 <sup>th</sup> August	Zip Wire High Ropes - Parallel Poles Problem Solving Games Photo Search	Climbing Wall High Ropes - Leap of Faith Problem Solving Games GPS Orienteering	Climbing Wall Low Ropes Problem Solving Games Wide Games	Absailing High Ropes - Crate Stack Lifeline Orienteering	<b>Survival Day</b> Fire Lighting Shelter Building Willow Weaving

Activities will run in groups, in rotation, throughout the day.

Please book online by visiting [www.braeside-education.co.uk/holiday-club](http://www.braeside-education.co.uk/holiday-club)

Contact us for more details – [info@braeside-education.co.uk](mailto:info@braeside-education.co.uk) 01380 722637

**Join the Stand Sure Youth Choir**  
Ages 8 - 18

**DO SOMETHING AWESOME**

Make friends  
Make music  
Sing in a group  
Sing solo

**Starting 5th September at Pewsey Scout Hall**  
[info@standsorechestra.co.uk](mailto:info@standsorechestra.co.uk)  
Further details to be released in due course.

Stand Sure Orchestra and Choirs welcomes anyone who can play an instrument to grade 5/6 and anyone who wants to sing.  
Youth choir 8 - 18      Choir - 16+

**FAMILY FUN DAY - SEPT 4TH 2021**  
**COME AND SEE WHAT WE'RE ABOUT**

**KICK COVID INTO TOUCH**

Games, Stalls, Music, Hog Roast, Bar, Bouncy castle

**ANGELA YEATES MEMORIAL GROUND, SN9 5NL**

**PEWSEY VALE RFC**  
**EST. 1992**

**HOGAN MUSIC**  
**Summer Courses | Newbury | 2021**

- Learn to Drum with Will Brundage, Mondays in August | £80
- Band Academy with Studio Recording, 4th - 6th August | £190
- Band Academy with Live Performance, 27th - 29th August | £175
- Learn to DJ with Leona Norton, 11th - 13th August | £299
- Karlos Edwards Guest Artist Drum Workshop, 17th August | £60
- Jazz & Blues Piano with Tim Richards, 8th August | £30
- Sax Hacks with Damien Cook, 18th August | £50
- Getting Away from the Dots with Damien Cook, 19th August | £30
- Contemporary Vocals with Noel French, 20th August | £40

**Ready for an amazing summer in The TreeHouse?** **TreeHouse at Grafton**  
*Beautiful After School & Holiday Club*

**Great adventures and great days out with great friends ...**

We are so pleased to be opening The TreeHouse Holiday Club this summer and are delighted to be working with many of the wonderful people we have worked with in previous years. We've got 3 weeks of excellent adventures and brilliant opportunities for new skills and experiences for primary school children from reception to 11 years.

Care for younger children, from babies to pre school, is available in our fabulous nursery rooms.

Week commencing 2 August					Week commencing 9 August				
Monday 2 August	Tuesday 3 August	Wednesday 4 August	Thursday 5 August	Friday 6 August	Monday 9 August	Tuesday 10 August	Wednesday 11 August	Thursday 12 August	Friday 13 August
<b>Wild in the Woodland</b> Larking about in our amazing natural play space all day long! <b>FULLY BOOKED</b>	<b>Out &amp; About Stonebridge Wild River Reserve</b> Riverbank with Affin Down, with a picnic, a picnic, a picnic and taking a humble bee walk. <b>FULLY BOOKED</b>	<b>Time for Art with Helena Harris</b> Ambitious, inspiring and creative for those already engaged and those who would like to have a go. <b>FULLY BOOKED</b>	<b>Out &amp; About Old Wardour Castle</b> Hands on history with English Heritage castle. Explore the grotto and climb to see for miles around. <b>FULLY BOOKED</b>	<b>Perform &amp; Play with the Watermill Theatre</b> Fabulous day of drama games and improvisation with the amazing Watermill Theatre. £5 supplement	<b>Out &amp; About Wiltshire Wildlife Trust Lakeside Care Farm</b> At the farm helping with the animals and enjoying natural crafts. £5 supplement	<b>Circus Skills with Clare's Circus</b> Roll up for the greatest show! Walking the tight rope, juggling and giant bubbles. <b>FULLY BOOKED</b>	<b>Out &amp; About Long Barrow &amp; Avebury</b> Absorbing our amazing local history. £3 supplement	<b>Music and drama with Kaya Drums</b> Magical rhythms with Alex Miles. Drumming, story telling, song and dance. £3 supplement	<b>Wild in the Woodland</b> Larking about in our amazing natural play space at Sunflowers with a day of team challenges and problem solving.
Opening times and costs					Week commencing 16 August				
The TreeHouse will open for 3 weeks during the summer - weeks commencing 2, 9 and 16 August - from 7.50am to 4pm Monday to Friday 9am to 4pm core hours cost £31.00 per child per day plus supplements where applicable. Early Bird drop off is 7.50am and costs an additional £4.00 per child per day. Prices include snacks and hot lunch (or picnic lunch on Out & About days)					Monday 16 August	Tuesday 17 August	Wednesday 18 August	Thursday 19 August	Friday 20 August
<b>COVID restrictions?</b> Our crystal ball is still a little hazy! Our plans are based on current guidance so we are limiting the number of families attending holiday club. In order to keep the number of contacts experienced by your children and our team to a minimum we ask for a minimum booking of 2 days in each week attended. Please note that we expect our robust system of controls to minimise risk of COVID-19 infection and transmission will still be in place					<b>Music and drama with Kaya Drums</b> Magical rhythms with Alex Miles. Drumming, story telling, song and dance. £3 supplement	<b>Out &amp; About Westonbirt Arboretum</b> To the national Arboretum to enjoy the trails, hidden play areas and brilliant Treemap Walkway. <b>FULLY BOOKED</b>	<b>Pottery throw down with Dove and Bee Pottery</b> Fabulous making experience. All materials delivered back to you. £5 supplement	<b>Wild in the Woodland</b> Larking about in our amazing natural play space at Sunflowers with a day of sporting challenges.	<b>Move like Jagger with CAP Dance</b> It's our last day and we are finishing with a big performance. Join Miss Charlotte to choreograph and perform. £3 supplement
<b>Cancellations and absence</b> If you have to cancel at short notice (less than 1 week) we will try to fill the place. If we can fill the space you will not be charged but if not, payment in full is required. In the event of missed days due to sickness we are not able to offer a refund					<b>Not just childcare ... great days out in The TreeHouse. For information or to reserve places call 01672 810478 or email admin@sunflowers-grafton.co.uk</b>				

We welcome children with additional needs and ask that you contact us directly to discuss individual needs as we may require the presence of a parent/carer or ask for additional payment to cover 1:1 support. Please contact us to start a conversation.

**TreeHouse at Grafton**  
*Beautiful After School & Holiday Club*