



ST KATHARINE'S C of E
SCHOOL

Friendship, Effort, Respect, & Honesty

Friday 19th November

NEWSLETTER No: 5

Our Value This Term Is...

Hope



Dear Parents,

I hope this finds you well and not too battered by the dark mornings and the clocks going back... I find it always takes a little bit of adjusting to.

We continue to be busy at school with all sorts of events that mark this time of year in the calendar. One of those is our marking of Remembrance which we did this year with a simple assembly led by Michael McHugh our school vicar. The children made lots of big thinking observations during our act of worship and they may remember how Michael taught us how to make a simple poppy that starts with a heart...

Our Eco Council have now had 2 meetings to decide what actions they would like to take forward into the rest of the school year. They have written a short piece for this newsletter about their plans and how they would like to begin with a more environmentally friendly Christmas. Please do read ahead.

Is it too early to mention Christmas? For us, we must start early in order that you can enjoy the wonderful performances that happen at this time of year. Oak and Hazel have begun practising for the Nativity and can be heard singing like angels (and sheep... and camels... and shepherds...) when they rehearse in the hall!

Finally, I would like to welcome the Hawkins family to St Katharine's. Isobel and Henry start life in Sycamore class on Monday and we look forward to helping them both make a happy and settled start to St Katharine's.

Niki Jones

Principal

'From little acorns, great oaks grow'



Parents Evenings

You will have received an email this week inviting you to make your appointment for the first of our parents' meetings using 'School Cloud'. We hope this is a simple process for you and that you have been able to book appointments relatively easily. Please do get in touch if this is not the case. We will of course be reviewing the system after each of our 3 planned parents' meetings and ensuring that, as users of the system, you feel that you were able to discuss progress and come away from the meeting informed. There will always be issues that arise that are not able to be satisfactorily discussed in a short parent consultation. If you have concerns and wish to speak with a member of staff, face to face, please send a message via the **admin@** email address and we will always respond promptly.

Sharing our Learning extra date

To enable you to see your child's work before your video meeting with your child's class teacher, we are offering 2 opportunities for you to come into school to do this.

- **Friday 26th November: 2:30 – 3:15**
- **Monday 29th November: 2:30 – 3:15**

You will be able to visit your child's classroom, sit with them and look through their books. They will be able to talk to you about their learning, celebrate with you and give you a better picture of the things they have been doing in school. If you have children in multiple classes, you can either move from class to class on one of those days or come on both days. Please come to the main entrance. Because there may be quite a few of you in school **we are asking that parents wear masks on this occasion.**

You will be able to take your child home if you feel you are finished before 3:15.

We look forward to welcoming you then.

St Katharine's Day

We celebrate St Katharine's Day on or near to 25th November every year. During this church service our Year 6 children retell the story of St Katharine and our youngest and oldest children leave a small posy near her statue.

We normally end the service with an early play time and iced buns. It is still a mystery as to how iced buns became linked with St Katharine, but I don't think anyone minds – least of all the children!

Huge thanks to Mrs Jellicoe, Mrs Gordon and Mrs Broomham for their kind offer to make the buns this year. *The way to a head teacher's heart is...*

Parents are welcome to join us for this short service which will be held at 9:30 in St Katharine's Church on Friday 26th November.

Sharing our School Vision

St Katharine's is a Church of England Primary School. As a school with that title, we are inspected by the Diocese approximately every 5 years through a SIAMs inspection (*Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools*).

As part of our recent work, we have been looking at our existing vision statement '*From Little Acorns Great Oaks Grow*' and working with staff and governors to underpin that statement with a supporting narrative. We hope that this narrative will help to guide our work and thinking in the years to come. A document that we hope will be at the centre of everything we do and the decisions that we make.

Please find it attached to this Newsletter.

The inspection framework for SIAMs has changed and we are now required to give our vision a theological underpinning. You will see at the top of the vision narrative that we have chosen a quote from the story of the Mustard Seed (*Mathew 4: 30 – 33*). We are looking at this parable in collective worship and thinking hard about how this helps us to understand our school vision and add meaning to '*From Little Acorns Great Oaks Grow*'. This piece of work has taken a lot of thought and involved consultation and collaboration with a range of stakeholders.

Special thanks to Caroline Cunningham and Michael McHugh (*foundation Governors, member of the PCC and Vicar*) for their time and wisdom when selecting the right piece of scripture to underpin a vision statement that has been with the school for a long time.

We hope you can take some time to read and digest it and would welcome any thoughts and reflections that you might have.

And now to our Eco Councillors...

Hello Everyone,

We are the new Eco-Council of St Katharine's. In our last two meetings we have discussed a lot of things to make our school more eco-friendly, starting with our Eco Christmas.

We would like to make our Christmas more eco-friendly and we have a few ideas to help with this:

- **A Christmas greeting wall instead of Christmas cards**
- **Not having Christmas crackers as part of our school Christmas dinner**
- **Make our own (recycled) paper hat for the party**

Christmas cards use lots of paper and card and are thrown away after Christmas. Therefore, we thought this year everyone could either send just one card to the whole school or write a poem or a draw a picture or a just write a greeting and pin it to our Christmas wall. These will be displayed on the board by the blue bench, in the last week of term. If you want a message, there will be materials to do this by the board but it would be lovely if you take the time to make your Christmas Greeting at home. Please avoid using glitter and materials that are not recyclable.

We also don't want to use crackers as these are very wasteful. We thought, like last year, we could make hats out of newspaper in our classes and use these for the party.

We also have a few tips for everyone at home:

- You could use fabric bags instead of wrapping paper or recyclable wrapping paper
- Do not use normal glitter, instead use eco or edible glitter
- Turn off the Christmas lights when they're not needed
- Try not to buy any new decorations; you could make your own reusable ones or use the ones from last year
- Try to find other sustainable alternatives for your Christmas

You don't have to do these things but if you want to do your part for the planet, please try to!

St Katharine's Eco-Council

*Athena, Jemima, Ti, Eva-May, Violet,
Alistair, Max W and Auberon.*



Sue Brady Christmas Lunch

Sue Brady will be providing Christmas lunch for the children on 8th December. The price will remain at £2.50 for KS2 and £2.30 for KS1. If you would like to book Christmas lunch that day, please book option 1 via the Sue Brady booking system. It will not show up as a Christmas lunch on the Sue Brady website for that day, but that is what will be delivered for the children on 8th December if you book option 1.

The lunch will consist of:

Roast turkey
Roast potatoes
Stuffing balls
Cocktail sausage
Carrots
Peas
Gravy
Christmas Chocolate Cake

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

<i>November</i>	
Thursday 25 th	Whole School Flu Vaccinations
	Sycamore – Netball Festival
Friday 26 th	St. Katharine's Day service in church – 9.30am
	Sharing our Learning afternoon – parents invited in 2.30pm until 3.15pm <i>Extra Date Added</i>
Monday 29 th	Sharing our Learning afternoon – parents invited in 2.30pm until 3.15pm
Tuesday 30 th	<u>Whole school</u> Parents Evening 1 – 3.30pm until 5.30pm EYFS/ Reception - Y6
<i>December</i>	
Wednesday 1 st	Whole school Parents Evening 1 – 3.30pm until 7.00pm Y1-6 only

Thursday 2 nd	Parents Evening 1 for <u>EYFS/Reception</u> (change of date) 3:30pm – 7:00pm Sycamore: 7-a-side football at Marlborough St Mary's Primary School <i>Details to follow</i>
Wednesday 8 th	Sue Brady Christmas lunch
Friday 10 th	Christmas Jumper Day
Monday 13 th	Nativity Dress rehearsal Hazel and Oak only – 2pm <i>*please note only 2 adults per family at this event</i>
Tuesday 14 th	Nativity in church 5.00pm until 6.30pm Hazel and Oak only <i>*please note only 2 adults per family at this event</i>
Thursday 16 th	Christmas parties – pm – bring in party clothes to change into
Friday 17 th	Carol Service Chestnut and Sycamore only 2.00pm St Katharine's Church <i>*please note only 2 adults per family at this event</i>
	Last day of Term 2
<i>January</i>	
Tuesday 4 th	TD day 4 No children in school today
Wednesday 5 th	First Day of Term 3
Saturday 15 th	Deadline for primary school applications

Items in bold have been added since the previous Newsletter.

Please also refer to your Key Dates Planner for all known date so far, this academic year.

Remaining TD Days 2021/22

- Tuesday 4th January
- Friday 22nd July

Please Note

We will close at 1:15pm on Thursday 21st July 2022

Other things you might want to know...



TRACKLEMENTS OPEN DAY

We're opening our doors once again for our annual Christmas Open Day, giving you the opportunity to step inside the tasty world of Tracklements.

On Saturday 4th December from 9.30am – 1pm we invite you to bring your friends and family to our factory near Malmesbury, where you can experience the transformation of the finest ingredients into your favourite sauces, chutneys, jellies and mustards.

There will be factory tours, festive nibbles and it's a great opportunity to do some Christmas shopping.

Free of charge and no need to book.
We look forward to seeing you there!

SATURDAY 4TH DECEMBER

9.30am – 1pm

Tracklements, Whitewalls, Easton Grey, SN16 0RD
www.tracklements.co.uk

Wiltshire Parent Carer Council

Wellness Information Event



WPCC's Information Events are Back!

Join us on Friday 3rd December 2021
at The Civic Centre Trowbridge, BA14 8AH
9.30am Registration
10.00am Event Start to 2.00pm Event Close

At least 30 information stands from providers of services and support for children and young people with SEND in Wiltshire

Free taster massage therapies

Free Lunch and Refreshments

Parent carer travel, car parking and childcare expenses paid

Scan this QR code to find out more →



or visit: https://issuu.com/wpcc1/docs/online_advance_information_booklet_-_wellness_event

VISIT: <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/WPCC-Wellness-2021>

if you want to book straightaway