



ST KATHARINE'S C of E
SCHOOL

Friendship, Effort, Respect, & Honesty

Friday 21st January
NEWSLETTER No: 9

Our Value This Term Is...
Truthfulness



Dear Parents,

If you were to ask our teachers, they would say that terms 3 & 4 are probably their favourite two terms of the school year. Perhaps the 'Spring' terms don't quite have the excitement of others; the glitter and excitement of the lead up to Christmas or the fun-filled events of the summer term such as plays and sports days. However, for teachers and for classrooms these are really settled, calm and productive terms where we get to see progress really start to take-off. There isn't a huge amount to tell you, since our return in January, but there is a calm and purposeful buzz around school that I am pleased to share with you.

You will have received the final Ofsted report and covering letter from me via parent mail yesterday. This will very shortly be published on the Ofsted website and via the link (under the 'Our School' tab) on our own website. If for some reason you didn't get a copy of the report and covering letter, please do get in touch and we will get one to you.

My heartfelt thanks, once again, to the entire St Katharine's community: our supportive parents, incredible, hardworking team of professionals and not least the children who arrive at school, everyday full of smiles, energy and a thirst for life and learning and who are, after all, the single most important things that bring us all together and provide us with our purpose.

Niki Jones

Principal

'From little acorns, great oaks grow'



Viking Expert Visits Sycamore

Mr Wills (Grandpa to Bjorn and Finlay), who is an author and an expert on the Vikings, visited school to talk to Sycamore Class in support of their current block of history learning on this very subject. He talked about how far the Vikings had travelled as explorers, traders and raiders. We also learned about warriors, Viking archaeology and Norse myths. The children had a wonderful afternoon, an experience that certainly added a great deal to their knowledge and understanding.

Mental Health Week – Week Beginning 7th February

You will have seen from the calendar that we will be observing Children's Mental Health Week during the week beginning 7th February. We will begin with our collective worship on Monday of that week talking about the key theme '**growing together**'.

Please follow this link

<https://www.childrensmentalhealthweek.org.uk/parents-and-carers/> if you would like to know more.

An update from the Eco-Council...

We've been thinking how we can make lunch times more sustainable. We have come up with some tips for how to have an eco-friendlier packed lunch.

Here are a few tips:

- 1. Reusable containers/wrapping including beeswax wrap and reusing tin foil.**
- 2. Try to skip individually wrapped food.**
- 3. Shop locally and if you can grow your own.**
- 4. Try to have a compost heap for your waste fruit and veg.**
- 5. Buy fruits that can be grown in that season.**

We look forward to seeing your Eco-friendly packed lunches!



Healthy Swaps

You will see from the notice board section of the newsletter (final page) that we have received some information from the NHS about healthy eating and healthy swaps that we can all make to improve our diets. This learning forms part of our science and PSHE curriculum and as such children have sessions within the school year to support their understanding of what it means to lead a healthy life. These mini posters are therefore for your information as parents.

Bark, Pallets and Dumpy Bags

We are very grateful to Laura, Leigh, Arla and Mack Hill for spending time last weekend spreading all of the bark on the outside play area. What an undertaking. We hope the blisters heal soon!

We are left with 5 empty dumpy sacks and 5 pallets. Please feel free to help yourself if you think any of these would be of use to you. They are stacked up in a pile at the rear of the school building near the bins.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

<i>February</i>	
Monday 7 th – 13 th	Children's Mental Health Week
Monday 7 th	UWE student teacher placement final week in Sycamore
	Final Lego Club session
Tuesday 8 th	Sycamore hockey tournament
Friday 18 th	Last day of Term 3
Monday 28 th	First day of Term 4
<i>March</i>	
Thursday 3 rd	First Chestnut Class forest school
	Oak Class visit to Sevington Victorian School
Friday 4 th	World Book day <i>Details to follow</i>
Thursday 17 th	KS2 SATs information session for parents 2.30pm-3.15pm

<i>April</i>	
Monday 4 th	3.30pm – 7.00pm Parents Evening 2 whole school
Tuesday 5 th	Bath Rugby Event for whole school and start of block of sessions for Sycamore
Thursday 7 th	3.30pm – 5:30pm Parents Evening 2 whole school (please note this date has changed from version 1)
	Final Chestnut forest school
Friday 8 th	Last day of Term 4
	Easter Service 9:30 in Church refreshments to follow
Monday 25 th	First Day of Term 5
	Sycamore 1st swimming session
Tuesday 26 th	Final Bath Rugby session for Sycamore
Thursday 28 th	First Oak forest school

Items in bold have been added since the previous Newsletter.

Please also refer to your **Key Dates Planner Version 2**, for all known dates so far, this academic year.

Remaining TD Days 2021/22

- Friday 22nd July

Please Note

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

Other things you might want to know...

NHS

Find healthier swaps for the whole family

Lower sugar yummy yoghurt

Just scan, swipe, swap

Now it's your turn to try!

Download the FREE NHS Food Scanner App

Better Health Let's do this

Be a Swap Rockstar!

- 1 **Scan** the barcode on your favourite foods
- 2 **Swipe** to see healthier choices
- 3 **Swap** next time you shop

Can you make 5 swaps?

Try colouring them in as you go*

Breakfast Lunch or Dinner Snack Dessert Drink

Choco Pops Corn flakes DEEP Thin and crispy delight Fruity drink Lower sugar juice drink

Name has made 5 swaps and is a Swap Rockstar

*Crayons work best. If you use felt tips make sure you allow time to dry.



Job Vacancy – Part-time Foodbank Admin Assistant (£10 an hour)

Devizes and District Foodbank is dedicated to helping people in crisis by providing them with emergency food and working with the local community to address their needs. We are looking for a part-time administrator on a fixed term contract (initially for 12 months) to provide support to the Project Manager in all aspects of the operation of Devizes and District Foodbank. The role is for 10 hours a week, ideally over 5 days, Monday to Friday.

You will be committed to the work of the Foodbank, being able to work collaboratively as part of a team of staff and volunteers. You will have good general administrative experience with excellent communication skills and be comfortable dealing with a wide variety of people. You will also have good IT skills and be confident in using the main Microsoft Office programs, having a good eye for detail.

For more information and for details of how to apply, please contact the project manager: info@devizesdistrict.foodbank.org.uk

Closing date: Friday 4 February 2022

Interviews will be held week commencing 14 February 2022 (We reserve the right to close early or extend this date depending on the number of applicants.)

Devizes and District Foodbank is committed to achieve greater diversity and welcomes applications regardless of sex, gender, race, age, sexuality, belief or disability