



ST KATHARINE'S C of E
SCHOOL

Friendship, Effort, Respect, & Honesty

Friday 18th February
NEWSLETTER No: 11

Our Value This Term Is...

Compassion



Dear Parents,

I will begin with an apology as this letter should have been with you on Friday 18th. It was however a day of school closure as Storm Eunice swept by and gave us an early half term holiday. Along with that was a power cut that prevented very little from being achieved, at least from the village I live in! As it is I write to you all from the weekend before we start back for Term 4. It is feeling decidedly spring like; I hope we are in for a few warmer, sunnier days in the weeks to come.

I am very happy to have some sporting adventures to share with you all. On Thursday 3rd Chestnut Class were visited by Charlie (Sports Partnership lead in our area) who brought with her a whole class indoor curling set for us to try out. These curling 'stones' has little wheels on the bottom which made them perfect for using in our school hall. For those of you with a child in Chestnut Class, I am certain that you would already have heard about it but if not, we had a truly brilliant afternoon. Great then that the UK men's and women's curling teams achieved both silver and gold medals in the winter Olympics last week. I think we all agreed after this taster session that we would love to have a go on some ice next time! Our year 5 and 6 children went to Marlborough for a Hockey Tournament (the first in a long time). We fielded two teams and both did very well, each coming second in their half of the draw. I am

reliably informed that our key strength was that of tactical know-how!

It is lovely to be reporting to you about things that we have been doing out of the classroom. We know that these experiences bring learning to life and are integral to the journey that our children make through the primary phase of their education. May there be lots more to come!

Niki Jones

Principal

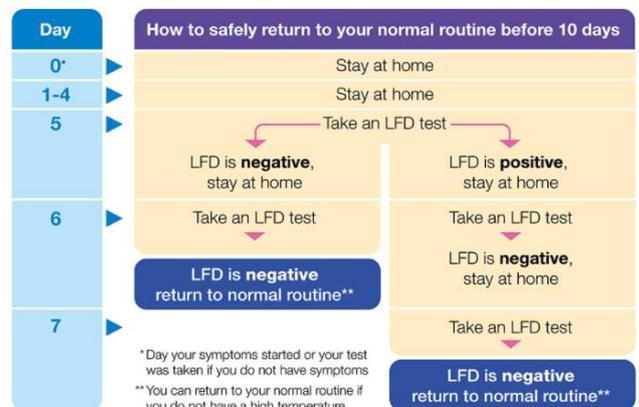
'From little acorns, great oaks grow'



Covid Update

There have been a significant number of cases during the half-term break. In most cases symptoms have been mild. We know that many local schools were really hampered by the virus during Term 3 with large numbers of cases affecting children, their families and the ability for schools to fully staff classrooms. I am hopeful that half term came for us at the perfect time and will have given us a much-needed circuit break. Please remain vigilant over the weekend and do not bring children back to school should they any of the symptoms that might suggest that they have Covid. If you do have reasons to suspect an infection, you should order a PCR test to confirm this. Children with a confirmed case should then remain at home until they have two negative LFD test result (from day 5) or upon reaching day 10, after confirmation of infection. The diagram below explains the steps to take in the event of a positive case and how to manage the return to school prior to the required isolation period of 10 days.

How to safely return to your normal routine before 10 days



If your day 5 LFD test result is positive, you can continue taking LFD tests until you receive 2 consecutive negative test results.

[The following link](#) contains the most recent information, amended after the Prime minister's announcement on February 21st.

New Testimonials for the Website

We have been busy reviewing the website, writing some new content and making sure that the format is as easy to navigate as possible.

Since the launch of the new website in April 2020 we haven't refreshed our parent testimonials. A lot has happened since then! This feels a touch narcissistic; we are essentially asking for some lovely comments from parents to put on the front page so that we continue to attract new parents and their children to our very special school.

If you would like to share a testimonial comment about your experience, as a family, of life at St Katharine's please send them in to the admin@stkatharines.excalibur.org.uk email address. Please do visit the 'Home' page of the website (scroll to the bottom) to see the testimonials currently displayed; you will see the sort of thing we are asking for. These can of course remain anonymous – please sign off testimonials as you would like them to appear.

Thank you in advance of a few responses.

Vision and Values Work

I have already written to you to tell you about the work we have been doing to refresh and deepen our school vision and values. We have been using the story of the Mustard Seed to help us bring that understanding to the children. We are planning a whole school vision and values day on 13th May to continue that work. Our original plan was to hold a sharing session with parents at the end of the school day. Because we plan to run forest school session with every class across that day, we have concluded that we are going to need the whole day for children to be with their teachers and as such would like to now invite parents, to share the work we have been doing, on **Friday 20th May instead of the 13th** (original 'save the date'). We are hoping that you can join us from 2pm on that day to find out a bit more about what we have been up to.

Sue Brady

Check your order

Where you are ordering Sue Brady lunches, please can we encourage you to discuss your lunch orders with your child/ren. We are keen to ensure that the children eat a good meal while they are at school. Also, in line with our Eco-Council's vision, we are keen to avoid food waste.

New Ordering System

Sue Brady Catering are looking at updating their ordering system and are hoping to get this up and running for next term (after Easter).

So that we can make the transition we will not be able to offer the seasonal orders for next term so all parents will have to order every fortnight.

Sue Brady Catering apologises for any temporary inconvenience caused to some parents, but the new system will enable all parents to order several weeks in advance.

World Book Day – reminder from previous newsletter

It won't be long until World Book Day is upon us. Whilst the actual day itself is 3rd March we have chosen to celebrate with a dress up day on **Friday 4th March**. We always encourage the children to try and come as a character from a book (rather than a film) or if they prefer to bring along a clue to a book, to get the rest of us guessing! Bringing along a copy of the book is always lovely as well, but not a requirement.

This is one of the highlights of our calendar. I love the first bit of the morning when the children arrive in an array of different costumes. There is an assembly first thing so that everyone can show these off (and so that we capture them before they start to unravel!) *Top tip for Oak Class parents: find a book that has Victorian children in it – we do understand that two dress ups in one week is quite an ask!*

News From the PTA

Easter Trail and Easter Bonnet Competition Friday 8th April at 2:30pm

The PTA will be having an Easter themed fundraiser event on the last day of term (Friday 8th April) from 2:30pm to 3:15pm.

The school will come outside to enjoy some Easter activities and we invite our St Katharine's families to join in the fun as well. Everyone is welcome from 2:30pm.

The school will come outside to enjoy some Easter activities and we invite all our St Katharine's families to join in the fun from 2:30pm as well.

The event will include:

Easter Trails

The PTA are planning two Easter trails, one for KS1 and one for KS2, and the trails will be within the

school grounds with an Easter egg at the end of the trail for all those who take part.

Easter booklets, with the relevant trail maps (KS1 or KS2) and some fun activities, can be purchased for £2.50 by one of the following payment methods;

1. Payment into the PTA PayPal account stkspta@outlook.com with the message 'EASTER along with your child/ children's names'.
2. Cash payment on the day of the event.

The booklets will be handed out to children who have purchased one on the afternoon of Friday 8th April.

For those who don't wish to purchase an Easter trail booklet there will be Easter colouring /quizzes / word searches available to enjoy too.

Easter Bonnet Competition

If you'd like to have fun creating an Easter Bonnet with seasonally inspired decorations, please bring this in on Friday 8th April and Ms Jones will judge the bonnets during the Easter Trail event. There will be two Easter Bonnet prizes to be won, one for KS1 and another for KS2.

Bake Sale and Teas and Coffees

During the afternoon there will be teas and coffees on sale and an Easter themed bake sale for you to enjoy.

We are looking forward to as many of you as possible taking part.

If you are not present to collect your child at 2:30 they will be supervised by class teachers and support staff until 3:15pm.

All monies raised will go to the PTA funds which provide much needed equipment and activities for the school.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

<i>February</i>	
Monday 28 th	First day of Term 4
<i>March</i>	
Tuesday 1 st March	Oak Class First Forest School Session <i>(Tuesday this week because of Sevington Trip – Thursdays for remainder)</i>
Thursday 3 rd	Oak Class visit to Sevington Victorian School
Friday 4 th	World Book Day

Friday 11 th	Chestnut and Sycamore ARK Visit 1.30pm – 3.00pm <i>(details to follow)</i>
Monday 14 th	PTA Bags to School drop bags by 9.00am
Wednesday 16 th	Sycamore TAG Rugby Tournament at St. John's
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
Thursday 7 th	3.30pm – 5:30pm Parents Evening 2 whole school <i>(please note this date has changed from version 1)</i>
	Final Oak Class Forest School
Friday 8 th	Last day of Term 4
	Easter Service 9:30 in Church refreshments to follow
	PTA Easter Trail Event 2.30pm – 3.15pm
Monday 25 th	First Day of Term 5
	Sycamore 1st swimming session
Tuesday 26 th	Sir Harold Hillier Gardens trip for Hazel and Oak class <i>(details to follow)</i>
	Chestnut Class First Forest School
Thursday 28 th	First Bath Rugby session of block of sessions for Sycamore
<i>May</i>	
Monday 2 nd	May Day Holiday School closed
Friday 13 th	Whole School Vision and Values Day

Thursday 19th	Sue Brady Pizza Day
Friday 20th	Vision and Values Day parent sharing afternoon. Parents invited from 2:00pm (timing TBC) <i>This represents a change from previous newsletter.</i>
Tuesday 24 th	Final Chestnut Forest School
	Year 6 Red Ridge Residential Parents Meeting 2.30pm <i>(details to follow)</i>
Thursday 26th	Final Bath Rugby session of block of sessions for Sycamore
Friday 27th	Last Day of Term 5

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...

07917 800 044 INFO@NOTJUSTTENNIS.CO.UK

not just tennis **2022**
Tennis & Sporting Activities
at Ramsbury Tennis Club
with Lewis & Catherine from
Tennis Xperience UK

DATES:
11th / 12th / 13th / 14th APRIL
19th / 20th / 21st APRIL

DETAILS:
For Children Aged 5-13 (All Abilities)
Timings: 9.00am - 13.00pm
Cost: £30.00 per child per day for RTC members.
An additional £5.00 one off fee for non-members.
Minimum of 2 day booking

NAME: _____
ADDRESS: _____ POSTCODE: _____
TELEPHONE: _____ MOBILE: _____
DATE OF BIRTH: / / E-MAIL: _____
MEDICAL INFO: _____
PLEASE SPECIFY DAYS: _____

Please make cheques payable to 'Not Just Tennis' and send to:
Little Chase, 3 Forest Hill, Great Bedwyn, Marlborough SN8 3LP



**St Katharine's
Easter Trail**

2:30pm FRIDAY 8th APRIL

St Katharine's families please join us from 2:30pm for:

EASTER TRAIL
All participants will receive an Easter egg at the end of the trail!
KS1 and KS2 trail booklets are £2.50 and can be purchased by payment into
the PTA PayPal account stkspta@outlook.com with the message 'EASTER
followed by your child/childrens name' OR by cash payment on the day.

EASTER BONNET COMPETITION
If you would like to enter please bring Easter bonnets into school on the
morning of Friday 8th April.

BAKE SALE & TEAS & COFFEES
Homemade Easter themed bakes and teas and coffees will be on sale
during the event.

All monies raised go to the PTA to fund equipment and activities for the school.