



**ST KATHARINE'S  
C of E  
PRIMARY SCHOOL**  
*Friendship, Effort, Respect,  
& Honesty*  
**Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February 2024**  
**NEWSLETTER No: 10**  
*Our Value This Term Is...*  
**Truthfulness**



*Dear Parents,*

Here we are at the end of another term, half-way through the academic year. With the division of the school year into three large seasonal terms: Autumn, Spring and Summer, I always think it is incredibly optimistic that there isn't a 'Winter' term. Whilst we all grumble about it (or is that just me?) winter is quite short-lived. There are signs of new growth emerging – the spinney is, yet again, blooming with its annual covering of snowdrops. When we start Term 4 it might even be a little lighter when we get up in the morning. There have been a few tired looking children in school this week and there have been quite a few absences for coughs, colds and other wintery ailments. I hope a week off and a bit of rest will give everyone a mini-reset and a chance to recuperate, ready to go again!

*Niki Jones*

Principal

*'From little acorns, great oaks grow'*



**Governors Morning**

We are lucky to have a group of governors that support the work of the school. As part of the role, alongside the commitment to attending 4 meetings

across the school year, our governors come into school to spend time in collective worship, church services and in classrooms to help them to answer the key question: 'What is it like to be a child at St Katharine's Primary School?'. Last week, some of our governors were in school for the morning, sitting in lessons and talking to children and members of staff. It was lovely to have them with us and for the children to get to know our governors a little better. It is a valuable and important job that they do – creating a bridge between the school and the parent community, the school and the community (more broadly) and the school and the academy trust (Excalibur) of which we are part. If you are interested in finding out about becoming a governor and the commitment involved please contact the school office or email Kim Lydon Strutt (Chair of governors) [kim.lydonstrutt@gov.excalibur.org.uk](mailto:kim.lydonstrutt@gov.excalibur.org.uk).

**Headlice**

We have had quite a few incidents of headlice in school since the beginning of the school year. This is something that requires everyone to be vigilant and onboard with in order that we don't end up in an endless cycle of treating and reinfestation. This is, as you all know, time consuming and expensive! Please take time to check your child's hair and if you find headlice make sure that you remain vigilant until you are certain they have been eradicated. It only takes one live egg to hatch for the cycle to begin again. Thank you on behalf of the whole school community – staff included – for taking this seriously.

Please see the NHS advice on how to treat [here](#).

**Music Lessons and Clubs**

Here at St. Katharine's we are fortunate to be able to offer a range of clubs and music lessons. We currently offer the following peripatetic music lessons during the school day, across the week:

**Guitar:** Chris Hunt

[Chrisguitarinfo@gmail.com](mailto:Chrisguitarinfo@gmail.com)

Year groups 1-6

**Piano:** Michael Lucas

[Michaellucasiano@icloud.com](mailto:Michaellucasiano@icloud.com)

Year groups 1-6

**1-1 singing:** Laura Barker

[Laura.barker@movingmusic.co](mailto:Laura.barker@movingmusic.co)

Year group 1-6

**Choir:** Jo Popperwell

[Mrsppoppsmusic@gmail.com](mailto:Mrsppoppsmusic@gmail.com)

Year groups 2-6

We also have the following clubs:

**Drama:** Lizzie Lewis

[info.talltales@gmail.com](mailto:info.talltales@gmail.com)

After school on a Thursday – Year groups 3-6

**Drawing Club:** Hannah Phillips

[tillyandwilson@hotmail.com](mailto:tillyandwilson@hotmail.com)

Tues after school – Year groups 3-6

**Dodgeball**

[info@in2sportcoaching.co.uk](mailto:info@in2sportcoaching.co.uk)

Lunch time – Mon: Year groups 3-6

Wed: Reception, Years 1 & 2

**Football**

[info@in2sportcoaching.co.uk](mailto:info@in2sportcoaching.co.uk)

After school – Mon: Reception, Year 1 & 2

Wed: Year groups 3-6

If you would like your child to take part in any of the clubs or lessons detailed above, please contact the provider to enquire about spaces and waiting lists.

There are other clubs (i.e running club) that crop up throughout the year. Information about these will be emailed to the relevant Year group/s as and when available.

### **Wiltshire Council Parenting Courses and Support**

Please see the notice board section of this newsletter for information about the range of parenting courses that are on offer through Wiltshire Council Children and Families Services. They have streamlined the service and brought everything under the one banner, hopefully making support easier to find and access. Please do have a look at what is on offer using the QR code (on the poster) to take you directly to the WC website. Please do come in and ask for guidance if you think you would like to access a course but are uncertain about which one.

### **Lost Property**

The lost property basket is already quite full. When items are named, it is a simple matter of reunited children with their things. When are not named this is a trickier business and a time consuming one. I am certain that you would rather our support staff are spending their time on teaching and learning in the classroom and not delivering lost clothing to its owner. Please help by labelling **all property** so that, when lost, we know who it belongs to.

The two rather precious possessions shown in the below photograph have been found at school. Such beautiful sentiments! If you recognise either of them please get in touch with the office so we can return them to their rightful owners.



### **Fund Raising**

Towards the end of last year we had a couple of fundraising events which we would like to report back to you on how much was raised, in recognition of your generosity.

- ★ In November we raised £106 for Children in Need when the children came in wearing something spotty.
- ★ In the final days before Christmas, you will recall Christmas Jumper Day. We raised £72 for Save the Children that day.

As always, many thanks for your help in supporting such worthwhile causes.

### **Mother's Day Pop up shop – PTA Message**

As you know Mother's Day is coming up. So our fabulous PTA are opening a Mother's Day pop up shop. The shop will be open on the 8th of March during school hours to all St. Katharine's students. All our lovely gifts are priced at £5. We are hoping the children will enjoy the independence of picking their own present for their mums.

All profits will go to the PTA and support our ongoing early years project. Please send your child/ children in with their money on the 8th and support our shop. Thank you.

### **DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

<i>February</i>	
Friday 9 <sup>th</sup>	Last Day of Term 3
Monday 19 <sup>th</sup>	First Day of Term 4
<b>Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>Sycamore Class Crofton Beam Engine Project visit</b>
Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Mobile Library visiting
<i>March</i>	
Monday 4 <sup>th</sup>	Oak Class visit to Sevington Victorian School

Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup>	Sycamore Class Life Exhibition at St John the Baptist Church, Pewsey <i>(details to follow)</i>
Friday 8 <sup>th</sup>	World Book Day Dress Up
	PTA Mother's Day Shop 1pm-3pm
Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup>	Scotability Years 1-6
Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup>	Year 5/6 Tag Rugby Tournament <i>(details to follow)</i>
Friday 15 <sup>th</sup>	Whole school cricket taster session
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Sharing our learning afternoon – parents invited in from 2.30pm until 3.15pm
	No celebration worship this week
	Mobile Library visiting
Monday 25 <sup>th</sup>	Parents Evening 2 whole school 3.30pm-5.30pm
Tuesday 26 <sup>th</sup>	Year 3/4 Cricket at St. Katharine's School (small group) <i>(details to follow)</i>
Wednesday 27 <sup>th</sup>	Parents Evening 2 whole school 3.30pm-7pm
Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup>	Easter Service in Church 9.30am
	Easter trail, Bonnet Competition and Cake Sale 2pm-3.30pm
	Last Day of Term 4

Please also refer to the **Key Dates Planner V2** that includes all the dates that we know of for the remainder of the academic year 2023/24 (at this point).

Our aim is that we give you advance warning and enable you to plan well ahead for some of the main events in the year. As events come into the school diary they will be added to the dates sections of the Newsletter and to Key Dates Planner V3 which are resent at the beginning of 5.

#### **TD Days**

There are no remaining TD days this academic year.

#### **Please Note**

We will close at 1:15pm on Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> July 2024.

# Other things you might want to know...



## SCHOOL HOLIDAY MULTI SPORT CAMPS

FOR AGES 5 - 12 YEARS

**@ St Katharines Primary School  
Marlborough, SN8 3BG**

**Date: Tuesday 13th February**

Football - Dodgeball - Basketball - Hockey - Handball - Tag Rugby - Cricket - Tennis  
plus many more!



**Time: 9am - 3pm Cost: £25.00 Clothing: Sports clothes & trainers**

**Items to pack: packed lunch (no nuts), water bottle, hat, sun cream, jacket**




07799 268115 (Tash) 07968 778732 (Vicky) info@in2sportcoaching.co.uk

**BOOK ONLINE AT [www.in2sportcoaching.co.uk](http://www.in2sportcoaching.co.uk)**

## Help Ukraine Group Support (HUGS)

in association with  
The Swindon Humanitarian Aid Partnership (SHAP)

### COLLECTION OF AID FOR UKRAINE

**Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> February 2024**  
**9.00am-2.00pm**

**Marlborough Town Football Club**  
**Elcot Lane, Marlborough, SN8 2BG**

**As winter sets in, please help us supply these items to frontline communities:**

- dry & non-perishable food (no jars) eg pasta, rice, tins, porridge; wrapped sweets
- medicine: over the counter **IN DATE** family meds inc painkillers, cold remedies, etc; **NO prescription drugs at this time please**
- medical & surgical supplies inc bandages, dressings & first aid kits
- wet wipes & personal hygiene products, athletes foot sprays & creams; multivitamins
- toiletries: soap, shampoo, toothbrushes/paste, unscented talcum powder
- water sterilising tablets/equipment
- nappies, sanitary & incontinence items; puppy training pads
- washing powder; washing-up liquid; toilet rolls; towels
- working hand/head torches; batteries; power banks; solar chargers
- candles (all sizes/shapes, new/used, loose/in containers); matches
- 'HOTHANDS' single use hand & feet warmers (avail online and in certain stores)
- generators; power tools
- good clean bedding: sheets, synthetic duvets & pillows, waffle blankets, fleece blankets;
- strong dark tents (min 4 person), groundsheets, roll mats, sleeping bags, camp beds, tarpaulins, camping stoves
- dark colour fleeces, plain dark t-shirts & military camo kit (adult sizes)
- clean outdoor hiking boots, insoles, warm/thermal socks
- new thermal underwear (men/women/children)
- dark colour scarves, warm/thermal hats & gloves
- premature, baby & children's clothes
- dog/cat food, meds & vet products
- crutches, wheelchairs & mobility aids; gym/rehab equipment

**All items CLEAN and ready to use please and NO OTHER CLOTHING at this time**

**Please get in touch if you can volunteer to help with packing on the day**  
**Sorry, no donations to the Club before/after the day**

Enqs: Tony: 07999 693399 / Mandy: 07762 935804

[www.helpukraine.co.uk](http://www.helpukraine.co.uk) [www.facebook.com/helpukrainegroupsupport](https://www.facebook.com/helpukrainegroupsupport)

## Parental Relationship and Parenting Programmes

Email: [parenting@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:parenting@wiltshire.gov.uk)

Being a parent can be amazing, but we all need some help, advice, and practical tips at times. Parenting programmes can provide just that, whether its from our trained facilitators or other parents and carers. We offer courses that are suitable from pregnancy all the way up to age 18.

### Parenting Courses:

- PREGNANCY TO PARENTHOOD
- BABY & US
- BEING A PARENT
- TIME OUT FOR PARENTS (children with additional needs)
- TRIPLE P (positive parenting programme)
- SWAPP (autism parenting programme)
- STOP (pre-teen and teen parenting)

### Parental Relationship Courses:

- OnePlusOne
- TRIPLE P FAMILY TRANSITIONS
- WITHIN MY REACH

"I understand my special needs child better also my own special needs and how to manage better as a parent."


"I feel so much more confident as a parent, and understand my child"

"It has changed my whole approach to parenting"

"I felt so lost and alone, but this course helped with more than just my parenting"

"How to communicate and have a calm conversation when times are stressful"

"I have skills to cope better."



**Wiltshire Council**



## You have what it takes for a rewarding career in fostering

- Your everyday experiences and skills are transferable into a foster carer role, from providing emotional support to teaching life skills.
- Our fostering roles are suitable for individuals, couples, or families from all walks of life. All children are different, so our foster carers are too.
- We offer many different types of fostering roles, including short-term, parent & child, therapeutic and long-term.
- Be part of our professional team and receive our ongoing comprehensive training.
- Receive generous fostering allowances, benefits and tax relief.

As a foster carer, you could provide a safe and stable home environment for a vulnerable child whilst enjoying a flexible and rewarding career that's literally life changing.

Ofsted registered since 2002 | Tel: 01452 491 980 | Web: www.nexusfostering.co.uk/Gloucester



### Why foster with Nexus Fostering?



Social worker led since 2002

Ofsted

Consistently rated 'Outstanding' by Ofsted



24

Our teams will support you 24 hours a year, 365 hours a day.



We offer a competitive weekly allowance and benefits packages



Regular carer support groups, day trips and activities for all the family



Careful and considered matching process led by our dedicated placements team, leading to successful outcomes.



Regular support packages for our therapeutic-led services and 1:1 carer outreach support for children



You'll never stop learning! Our staff undertake initial training and continually invest in your development

Fostering a child can be a rewarding and fulfilling experience for anyone with a passion for helping others.

If you think you could make a difference to a young person's life, get in touch today for an informal chat about what's involved.

01452 491 980



or visit us online at: [www.nexusfostering.co.uk/Gloucester](http://www.nexusfostering.co.uk/Gloucester)

Unit A5 | Elmbridge Court | Cheltenham Road East | Gloucester | GL3 1JZ



## Winter Works Open Days

10:30 to 14:30

Families are invited for a behind the scenes look at our winter maintenance and to take part in our FREE craft and STEM activities.

Saturday 10th February

### STEM Challenge - Cotton Bud Bridge

Transform the simple cotton bud into a bridge building material.



### Craft Activity - Silhouette Masterpieces

Explore shadows and the fiery colours of sunsets.

Upcoming dates: Saturday 9th March

Free entry to the Beam Engines (donations welcome).

Visit [www.croftonbeamengines.org/events](http://www.croftonbeamengines.org/events) for more information.

## THAT'S MY DONKEY!

Puppet Show to celebrate Palm Sunday for all the family to enjoy

Saturday 23rd March

3.00pm

at St Katharine's Church

SN8 3BG

Free entry for all  
Donations to St Katharine's church welcome!

