



ST KATHARINE'S

C of E

PRIMARY SCHOOL

*Friendship, Effort, Respect,*

*& Honesty*

Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2024

NEWSLETTER No: 15

*Our Value This Term Is...*



*Humility*

*Dear Parents,*

We have reached that point in the year where time seems to build momentum and gather pace. The school calendar is bursting at the seams, most of it exciting for the children if not a little tiring for the adults responsible, either for organising the events or ensuring that the children have everything they need to be in the right place at the right time with all the necessary equipment (that's all of you by the way)!

There has been a bit of a sporting theme over the past fortnight with a lower Key Stage 2 cricket tournament, a Year 2 Quad Kids event and our Scootability day where children across the school, from Y1 to Y6, brought their scooters to school to learn and practise new skills and to develop their road and safety awareness. We have a very busy curriculum and it is always lovely to have events and activities, such as these that enhance and promote physical learning and being in the outdoors.

Our Lego Exhibition last Friday was a great success. When I asked the children after the Easter Break how many of them had built a model there were only a few hands up and quite a few puzzled looks. I did wonder how much of an exhibition it would be. I needn't have worried. There were over 70 models in school on Friday all of which demonstrated great building skills, creativity and ingenuity. It was originally billed as a competition but it very quickly became apparent that the judging would be impossible. How do you compare a scaled Lego version of the Michael Jackson

Dangerous Tour, with a beautifully built canal barge or a detailed replica of our school, to name but a few? I have modelled my humility, owned the foolishness of the mistake in setting it up as a competition in the first place and (hopefully) been forgiven by the children! Everyone on this occasion really was a winner. Thank you for your support, visiting the exhibition, your generous donations and the making of cakes. We raised a staggering £400 towards the cost of the new Lego Robot that will be put through its paces next year at the Lego Robotics competition in Bristol. Thank you. Sycamore have had their second visit to the Crofton Beam Engine as part of a project to create short films, about the Beam Engine, for visitors. The real work of production has now begun in readiness for them being ready for the public at the Steam Day on **Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> June**. Please do go along and see what they have been up to. Finally, a big thank you to the parent volunteers who are currently running our Maypole Club on Fridays after school. There are lots of children taking part, learning a few dances in readiness for a display at the school fete. I hope you all have the date in your diary. We are returning to a more traditional summer fete this year. I look forward to a sunny day that we can share as a school community that also raises money for the things on our 'wish list' that we are now turning our attention to.

*Niki Jones*

Principal

*'From little acorns, great oaks grow'*



### **Governor Afternoon**

We are lucky to have a strong Academy Council at St Katharine's. Our governors (who form the Academy Council) are made up of parents and members of the wider community. As part of this role, they are tasked with being able to articulate responses to the question '*what is it like to be a child at this school?*' We have four formal meetings a year that cover a range of agenda items to facilitate this, alongside two further opportunities to visit school, spending time in classrooms talking to staff and children. This week our governors were in classrooms taking part in lessons and finding out more about everyday life in school. Governance is an important, voluntary role that adds great value to what we do.

### Sex and Relationships Information Meeting for Parents - Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> May @ 2:30pm

We are running our usual parent information session (see above date). This short meeting will enable parents to gain an understanding of our SRE curriculum and the subject matter covered in our upcoming PSHE unit entitled *Changing Me* (Term 6). Whilst the content changes according to the age of the children, the unit title is the same for all year groups.

This is the **same** session that we ran last year. Please feel free to come along again or attend for the first time if you are new to school or didn't make it last year. The meeting will take place in Chestnut Class. Please come to the side door to be let in. We will be sending out materials after the session if you are unable to make it.

### Message from Wraparound Childcare Team – Wiltshire Council

Wiltshire Council has been allocated money to develop wraparound childcare (before and after school places) and parents should expect to see more availability from September 2024. To enable Wiltshire Council to build a picture of where wraparound childcare needs to be developed, they are running a parent/carer survey on what unmet demand for wraparound childcare exists.

Replies are anonymous, but the Council will hear your voice as summary results will be shared. As a thank you for taking part, you have the option to be included in a draw on 20 May to win one of 20 vouchers for £50.

Link to survey: <https://surveys.wiltshire.gov.uk/s/WraparoundCare>

### Message from the PTA

The School Fete will be on Saturday 8th June 12-4pm, All are welcome and entry is FREE! The poster for the fete, created by Leanda McConnell, can be found on the notice board and on social media, please feel free to share this poster **widely** with all of your family and friends! We will have all of the usual fete stalls and games along with a bit of Maypole dancing. There will also be visits from our local Police and Fire services. Soon we will be requesting items to sell on the toy, bric-a-brac and plant stalls. If you have anything that you can donate, we shall be very grateful. Please keep us in mind if you are having a clear out or if you are planting any seeds or separating plants in your gardens.

As always, we are desperate for volunteers to help us on the stalls and soon there will be a list of where those volunteers are needed. Thank you all for your continued support and let's hope the sun shines on the day!

### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

May	
Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Year 2 Quad Kids at Marlborough College (am)
Monday 6 <sup>th</sup>	May Day Holiday School Closed
Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup>	Hazel Class trip to Sir Harold Hillier Gardens in Romsey
Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> (week commencing)	Key Stage 2 SATs week
Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Whole School – visit from Aldbourne Childrens Book Group (pm)</b>
Friday 17 <sup>th</sup>	Mobile library visiting
Monday 20 <sup>th</sup>	Year 6 pre-residential parents meeting 3.30pm PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF TIME
Wednesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> – Friday 24 <sup>th</sup>	Year 4 Residential at Braeside
Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup>	<b>Sex and Relationships Information Meeting for Parents</b>
Friday 24 <sup>th</sup>	Walk Safe Sessions Years 1,3 and 6
	Last Day of Term 5
June	
Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup>	First day of Term 6
	Multiplication Check Year 4 <i>the check will take place during the next fortnight</i>
Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup>	Year 5/6 Athletics at Marlborough College (small group)
Friday 7 <sup>th</sup>	Final KS2 Maypole Dancing After School Club session
Saturday 8 <sup>th</sup>	PTA Summer Fete 12-4pm
Monday 10 <sup>th</sup>	Year 5 ONLY swimming session
Monday 10 <sup>th</sup> – 14 <sup>th</sup>	Year 6 Redridge Residential Trip
	Phonics screening check week

Monday 10 <sup>th</sup> (week commencing)	Nursery visits for 2024 intake begin this week
Friday 14 <sup>th</sup>	Mobile library visiting
Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> (during week commencing)	Year 6 Bikeability <i>(final details to follow)</i>
Tuesday 18 <sup>th</sup>	New Reception parent information evening 6-7.30pm
<b>Thursday 20<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Year 6 Parents' Info Evening at St. John's 5.15pm-7.30pm</b>
	<b>Oak Class Trip to Natural History Museum, Oxford</b>
	<b>Visit from Crofton Beam Engine to Sycamore Class (am)</b>
<b>Monday 24<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Year 6 Uniform Fitting Evening at St. John's</b>
<b>Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Multiskills at Marlborough St. Mary's School (small group)</b>
<b>Thursday 27<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Whole School – Emergency Awareness training, Wiltshire Air Ambulance</b>
<b>Friday 28<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Year 5/6 Rounders at St. Katharine's (small group)</b>
<b>Saturday 29<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Crofton Beam Engines Project Reveal and Celebration</b>

Please also refer to the **Key Dates Planner V3** that includes all the dates that we know of for the remainder of the academic year 2023/24.

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. This is the final Key Dates Planner for this academic year.

### **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.

### **TD Days next academic year**

2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2024

21<sup>st</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2024

*We will close at 1:15pm on Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> July 2025*

# Other things you might want to know...



**CROFTON BEAM ENGINES**

Join us for a Teddy Bear Picnic  
Saturday 18th May 2024  
10:30 to 16:00

Bring your picnic lunch and your favourite stuffed animal to Crofton Beam Engines.

- Song and Story Sessions\*
- Crafts
- Lawn Games
- Self-guided tour of the Engine House

\* *Books are required for the Song and Story Sessions (£2 per child)*



To find out more and to book tickets please visit the **What's On** page of our website  
[croftonbeamengines.org](http://croftonbeamengines.org)



Crofton Beam Engines is a branch of The Kennet and Avon Canal Trust  
Charity Number: 209208  
Crofton Beam Engines, Crofton, Marlborough, SN8 3DW  
[crofton@kathut.org.uk](mailto:crofton@kathut.org.uk) | 01672 870300




St Katharine's School

# FÊTE

Saturday 8th June  
12-4pm  
Free Entry

Games - Plants - Brickabrack  
Toys - Books - Maypole  
Cream Teas - BBQ - Bar  
Mini Farm & lots more

## Could you help children with their reading this summer?

We are looking for outgoing and enthusiastic volunteers to support children taking part in the **Summer Reading Challenge in Marlborough & Pewsey Libraries**

**13 July - 7 September 2024**

- Gain experience and skills.
- Support your local community.
- Make a difference to a child's reading.
- Have fun!



Ask staff for details about this rewarding volunteering opportunity.

For more information contact Marlborough Library 01672 512663/ Pewsey Library, tel.01672 562265 or email: [libraryenquiries@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:libraryenquiries@wiltshire.gov.uk)

Minimum commitment: 16 hours over the duration of the challenge  
Parent/guardian permission required for under 18s







## LOOKING FOR A JOB IN A SCHOOL?

Teaching Assistant  
Playground / Midday Supervisor  
Examinations Invigilator  
Cover Support Role  
Behaviour Support Role  
Youth Worker  
Support Work



**Fully Funded (FREE) - Qualified in ONLY 6 weeks - No Travel - Online based - Classes in school hours**

Accredited Qualifications:  
 • NCFE / CACHE Level 2 Certificate in Understanding Challenging Behaviours  
 • NCFE / CACHE Level 2 Certificate in Understanding Safeguarding and Prevention  
 Progression to an ONLINE Level 3 Teaching Assistant Course FULLY FUNDED

Register here: [www.studysmartuk.online](http://www.studysmartuk.online) or scan the QR code

Contact Adam: 07534 175 965  
[adam.shaw@wiltshireeducationandcommunity.co.uk](mailto:adam.shaw@wiltshireeducationandcommunity.co.uk)

# SWIMMING LESSONS

Free swimming in public sessions included in our swim school memberships!

aquletes

active wiltshire

Wiltshire Council

SBC - Schools Delivery Driver - 2hrs a day (10:45am – 12:45pm) Monday to Friday term time. Would suit someone wanting to earn a little extra and join a lovely bunch of people. If interested, please call 01672 519200 or email [info@suebradycatering.com](mailto:info@suebradycatering.com)



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**MARLBOROUGH**



\* Wednesdays  
\* Mixed Age 0945am (up to 4 years)  
\* Baby Only 1045am (4-14 months)

[www.magical-music.com](http://www.magical-music.com)

1/2 price trial session available