



ST KATHARINE'S
C of E

PRIMARY SCHOOL

*Friendship, Effort, Respect,
& Honesty*

Friday 4th October 2024

NEWSLETTER No: 3

Our Value This Term Is...

Courage



Dear Parents,

We have had another busy fortnight in school. I am sure you must be feeling the gathering pace yourselves as the school year really starts to get going. Thank you to those of you who were able to attend the 'Meet the Teacher' sessions last week. We do understand that these are not at the perfect time for all (I don't think there is a perfect time for all) and we are always thinking about how we could capture more of you. Teacher presentations will for now, be sent out on SeeSaw for those of you unable to make it. Please look out for those. This week we also held presentations on early reading (KS 1) and times table learning (Ys 2-6). Thank you again to those of you attending and we hope that you found the sessions informative. Any feedback is gladly received.

Our Year 3's went to Oxenwood last Friday to take part in a somewhat wet and chilly 'Adventure Day'. The weather did not stop them from having a great time shelter building, learning archery, climbing, fire lighting and completing the day with a 2-mile night walk down the legendary Spooky Alley! I can confirm, first hand, that everyone went home tired but very happy. This week a group of 10 children from Sycamore Class took part in a small-school Dodge Ball Tournament. They all played with energy and enthusiasm. I am reliably informed that we came a respectable 2nd by a very small margin! Well done to the Dodge Ball Team of Ten. On a

musical note, we were able to take advantage of a Wiltshire Music initiative to bring live music into primary classrooms, by taking part in a live streamed concert. Year 5 and 6 were treated to the music of Latin American duo Borges Machado. The children were encouraged to get involved, feel the rhythm, have a dance and ask lots of questions. It was lovely to be transported, along with Sycamore Class, to somewhere entirely different on a grey Monday afternoon. Only two short weeks until the end of this first term we have lots to fit in, not least our Harvest Festival next Wednesday. I hope that lots of you can join us for this first service of the year and book out enough time in your diary to enjoy refreshments back at school afterwards.

Ms Jones

Principal

'From little acorns, great oaks grow'



Attendance Update

Current whole school attendance data: 96.7%

We have had lots of children off school this week. It is the beginning of bug season it would appear. As always, we ask that children who are not well enough for school stay home to get better. The rules around sickness, diarrhoea and temperatures remain the same. The NHS document 'is my child too ill for school?' is helpful if you aren't sure whether to send your child in or not. It is included [here](#) for reference.

School Council Elections

This year, rather than an eco-council, we have decided that we would like to form a school council. The difference being that we would like the elected children to consider changes that they might like to make or projects they might like to be involved in, beyond those involving environmental issues for e.g healthy eating or campaigning for slower speeds on the road into school or the planning of Gem Days. Once elected, we will find out about what it is they would like to put their energy into.

We would like to hold our election on **Friday 8th November**. We will be asking children to plan their manifestos over the coming weeks and during the half term. These will take the form of a short presentation to their class. Children can use things to support them such as PowerPoint a poster or props. They need to answer 3 questions:

- Why I want to be a School Councillor
- Why I would make a good School Councillor and why you should vote for me
- What I might try to achieve if I was elected

We will be supporting in school with ideas on different ways to present and how to make a presentation grab someone's attention. Children should aim for about 2 minutes as a maximum time. There will be time set aside during the first week back for children to share these with their classes.

Turning Circle and Parking

As a school we are very fortunate to be located in such a beautiful setting. However, with this location come challenges. The drop off and collection of children needs to be carefully orchestrated to enable all the cars to flow comfortably and efficiently. In the main, the turning circle works very well. However, it does require co-operation from our parent community. Please can we ask that parents avoid parking alongside the hedge line immediately at the exit of the turning circle. Parking here makes it very difficult to see around the corner as you pull out of the school premises, and it increases the danger for any pedestrians attempting to cross. Thank you for your continued consideration when parking.

Harvest Festival

Don't forget your contributions for the food bank. These can come into school from Monday. They will be collected on Friday 11th. Our Harvest Festival is in church at 9:30 on Wednesday 9th. Please join us if you are able.

- ★ T-bags 80s /160s
- ★ Tinned soup
- ★ Tinned tomatoes
- ★ Tinned ham
- ★ Chocolate
- ★ Dried rice 500g
- ★ Jar of pasta sauce
- ★ Instant mash potato
- ★ UHT dairy milk

Open Day

Please see the poster on the notice board below that advertises our Open Morning which we are holding on **Thursday 17th October from 9:30 – 11:30am**. This event is primarily for the parents of those children starting school in September 2025. School is open for the morning and parents are invited to tour classrooms (with one of our expert Upper Key Stage 2 tour guides) and to speak to staff, parents and governors. We are advertising the event as widely as we can and ask that you spread the word to people that you know with young - soon to be school age – children. We are never complacent about attracting families to our school. Remaining full enables us to stay well-

resourced and to give all our children the very best offer. You and the children are our best advocates. **Please spread the word, widely, loudly and proudly!**

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 items 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.

Individual photos

On 15th October we have a company coming in to take individual photos of the children with an option for you to purchase. Siblings at St. Katharine's will be taken together. However, if you have younger siblings and would like for them to be included in a photograph with your St. Katharine's child/ren please feel free to bring your younger siblings along at morning drop off on 15th and you can have a photograph of your children taken together at that point. The photographers will be ready for family shots from 8.30am.

Christmas Box Appeal

We have made the decision that we are not going to go ahead with the Christmas box appeal this year. We were hoping to run it from school this year, asking for donations and assembling boxes in school. There was to be an additional charge of £4.50 a box that we would have needed to fund raise for which has added to the puzzle of how to achieve this. We will have a think about how we can get involved again next year or identify another charity to support. We will be making donations to Save the Children on Christmas Jumper Day.

Emergency Closures

With the colder weather rolling in, it seems timely to remind our parent group about the school response in the event of an emergency closure due to adverse weather conditions or other situations resulting in the school being closed at short notice.

The following details are given on the school website, however, in summary, we will send an email to all parents that are set up on the school Bromcom email system. This will be followed up with information posted on our social media channels – The Friends of St Katharine's Facebook Group, our Twitter account @St_Katharines and messages will be sent through class and whole school What's App groups.

Also, in the event of a snow closure, we will inform our most local radio station – BBC Wiltshire radio (103.6FM and 104.3FM).

Bins

Please can we ask that people avoid using the school wheelie bins for personal rubbish disposal. We have specific bins for different purposes and there have been occasions where we have found waste in the wrong bins that is clearly not school waste. Many thanks.

Christmas Lunch

This year our school Christmas lunch will be on Wednesday 11th December. Sue Brady will only be providing hot Christmas lunch on that day. There will be no sandwich/cold options available. Please order option 1 for that date. Any meals ordered for Wednesday 11th December will automatically receive a Christmas lunch. If you wish to cancel you can do this through ScoPay before the 8-day cut off period.

Children in Need – The Heaviest Backpack

This year, Children in Need Day is about exploring the idea that some children live with worries and in situations that can feel like a backpack with heavy weights in it. The idea is to get everyone thinking about how this weight can be alleviated and that ultimately it is not the responsibility of children to be carrying such a load in the first place. We will explore this with the children in assemblies and class discussion times on the day and in the lead up. To mark this, children can decorate their backpacks with anything that brings light and joy or would make another person simply smile when they saw it. This is not compulsory. We will be collecting donations on the gate in the morning by way of our school contribution to this charity. We would suggest a minimum donation of £1.

Message on behalf of the PTA

The date for the PTA Bonfire Night is **Friday 8th November!** Gates open from 6pm. Parking for this event will be at the church, school and the avenue car park. Marshalls will be on hand to direct you and park everyone as quickly and efficiently as possible. There will be a bonfire, fireworks, bbq, bar and other stalls to keep everyone entertained. The event will finish around 8pm. Please do not bring dogs or sparklers. We will have glow sticks for sale on the night. We are pleased to announce that tickets for the St. Katharine's Bonfire Night are now live and are available to purchase from the website www.pta-events.co.uk/stkatharines Tickets are limited due to parking so be quick to book your ticket to avoid disappointment.

Tickets are £25 per car.

As always we cannot run these events without the volunteers to help run events. There is a volunteer list on the website and any help will be greatly appreciated and there will be a free drink for anyone who volunteers to help us!

If anyone can help with Car Park Marshalling please get in touch with Tamsyn Kerr - we need 11 volunteers who are able to meet Tamsyn at 5.15pm for a briefing and you won't miss the fun or fireworks!

Please do not hesitate to contact any of the PTA if you have any queries.

PTA Pumpkin Picking Event

Come and join us after school on Friday 18th October for our first Pumpkin Picking event!!!

The School field will have a selection of pumpkins for children to choose and take home to carve in the half term holiday - Pumpkins will be priced £1.50 each! We will also have a Halloween themed colouring competition with prizes and will be selling cakes, hot drinks and pumpkin soup.

Please can we ask for cake donations from Hazel and Oak classes to support our event.

We hope that you can all join us for a bit of fun before the half term break begins. Thank you all for your support.

Christmas Wreath Workshops

We are pleased to announce that Pip Blanchard and Tamsyn Kerr will be running two Christmas Wreath workshops for the PTA this year.

The first one will be on the evening of Thursday 28th November and the other will be the morning of Friday 29th November.

Tickets will be limited and the price will be the same as last year at £35 each, which includes everything you will need plus a bit of Christmas Music and Refreshments!!! We will write again soon once the tickets are live to order. Thank you for your support.

Pip & Tamsyn

PTA Charity Christmas Cards

The PTA have decided to help out with the designs for our Christmas Card Fundraiser this year. Today children will come home with a Christmas Card pack and information.

For *Hazel and Oak class* - members of the PTA shall be coming into school on Monday 14th and Tuesday 15th October to create designs with the children.

For *Chestnut and Sycamore class* - the PTA will be sending home a craft pack with a design idea for the children to do at home.

All instructions from the PTA will be given in the packs that are being sent home today and on the various WhatsApp groups. We are hoping that this makes things

a little easier for parents and takes the pressure off from creating something at home.

Please support us if you can - For every Christmas Card pack ordered the PTA will receive £1!!

As always if you have any questions please contact us!

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

<i>October</i>	
Wednesday 9 th	Harvest Festival 9:30 in Church
Thursday 10 th	KS 2 Reading Meeting 2:30 – 3:15 This has been rescheduled to Tuesday 26 th November
Friday 11 th	Tag Rugby Festival (small group) Chestnut Class
Tuesday 15 th	Individual photos
Wednesday 16 th	X Tables Rock Stars relaunch! Dress – Up Day
Thursday 17 th	Open Morning (prospective parents 2025/26) 9.30am-11.30am
Friday 18 th	Last Day of Term 1
	School Council elections
<i>November</i>	
Monday 4 th	First Day of Term 2
Wednesday 6 th	Sycamore Class trip to Imperial War Museum and Churchill War Rooms
Thursday 7 th	Year 5/6 Netball at Marlborough College (details to follow)
Friday 8 th	Bonfire Night PTA
Sunday 10 th	Remembrance Service at St. Katharine's Church
Monday 11 th	Remembrance Collective Worship in school – 9.05am – parents welcome
Tuesday 12 th	Odd Socks Day (part of Anti-Bullying Week)
	Year 3/4 Handball Festival at Burbage School (small group)
Friday 15 th	Children in Need – The Heaviest Backpack – children decorate their backpacks.

Thursday 21 st	Sharing our Learning afternoon – parents invited from 2.30pm until 3.15pm (NOTE CHANGE OF DATE)
Friday 22 nd	Chestnut Class visit to Winchester Science Museum
Monday 25 th	St. Katharine's Day Service in Church 9.30am
	BBC Symphony Orchestra musicians, workshop (Sycamore) and concert (whole school)
Tuesday 26 th	KS 2 Reading Meeting 2:30 – 3:15
	Parents Evening 1 – All Classes (3.30pm-7.00pm)
Thursday 28 th	Parents Evening 1 – All Classes 3.30pm – 5.30pm)
Friday 29 th	Mobile library visiting

Please also refer to the **Key Dates Planner V1**, that includes all the dates that we know of for the academic year 2024/25 (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 Planners V2 and V3 which are sent at the beginning of Terms 3 and 5.

Remaining TD Days 2024/25

21st, 22nd, 23rd October 2024

Please Note

We will close at 1:15pm on Thursday 24th July 2025.

Other things you might want to know...



08 NOV @ 6 PM £25 ENTRY PER CAR

Bonfire Night

ST KATHARINE'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

FIREWORKS • FOOD • BAR

BOOK TICKETS AT WWW.PTA-EVENTS.CO.UK/STKATHARINES

PLEASE LEAVE YOUR DOGS (EXCEPT GUIDE DOGS) AND SPARKLERS AT HOME.



Is your child due to start school in September 2025?

St Katharine's Primary School, Savernake are holding an open morning on Thurs 17th October 2024 from 9.30am to 11.30am.

Drop in and see our wonderful learners at work.

St Katharine's Primary School, Marlborough, Wiltshire, SN8 3BG

01672 870492

www.stkatharinesprimary.org.uk
admin@stkatharines.excalibur.org.uk





in2sport coaching

SCHOOL HOLIDAY MULTI SPORT CAMPS

FOR AGES 5 - 12 YEARS

@ St Katharine's Primary School
Marlborough, SN8 3BG

Dates: 28th & 29th October 2024

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

Time: 9am - 3pm Cost: £28.00 Clothing: Sports clothes & trainers
Items to pack: packed lunch (no nuts), water bottle, hat, sun cream, jacket

@IN_2SPORT in2sportcoaching



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

BOOK ONLINE AT www.in2sportcoaching.co.uk



MARLBOROUGH DEVELOPMENT CENTRE

2024-25 TERM DATES WEDNESDAYS 5-6pm

TERM 1:	4 th SEPT - 23 rd OCT 2024	17 WEEKS = £56
TERM 2:	6 th NOV - 18 th DEC 2024	17 WEEKS = £49
TERM 3:	8 th JAN - 12 th FEB 2025	14 WEEKS = £42
TERM 4:	26 th FEB - 2 nd APR 2025	6 WEEKS = £42
TERM 5:	23 rd APR - 21 st MAY 2025	10 WEEKS = £35
TERM 6:	4 th JUNE - 23 rd JULY 2025	8 WEEKS = £56

BOOK NOW!

MAXIMUM OF 25 SPACES AVAILABLE
BOYS & GIRLS AGED 4 - 12
INDOOR SPORTS HALL
PLEASE BRING SHIN PADS
TRAINERS & DRINKS BOTTLE



MARLBOROUGH LEISURE CENTRE,
BARTON DENE
SN8 1PB

CONTACT US TO BOOK YOUR SPACE

Please contact:
Mott Counett
0784 204178
mottcounett@seacademy.co.uk
www.seacademy.co.uk



SCAN HERE TO VISIT OUR WEBSITE



MARLBOROUGH MINI STARS

2024-25 TERM DATES FRIDAYS 10.30-11am

TERM 1:	6 th SEPT - 18 th OCT 2024	17 WEEKS = £28
TERM 2:	8 th NOV - 20 th DEC 2024	17 WEEKS = £28
TERM 3:	10 th JAN - 14 th FEB 2025	14 WEEKS = £24
TERM 4:	28 th FEB - 4 th APR 2025	10 WEEKS = £24
TERM 5:	25 th APR - 23 rd MAY 2025	10 WEEKS = £20
TERM 6:	6 th JUNE - 18 th JULY 2025	10 WEEKS = £28

BOOK NOW!

MAXIMUM OF 15 SPACES AVAILABLE
FOR BOYS & GIRLS
AGES 2 - 5 (PARENT & TODDLER SESSIONS)
INDOOR SPORTS HALL
PLEASE BRING TRAINERS & DRINKS BOTTLE



MARLBOROUGH LEISURE CENTRE,
BARTON DENE
SN8 1PB

CONTACT US TO BOOK YOUR SPACE

Please contact:
Mott Counett
0784 204178
mottcounett@seacademy.co.uk
www.seacademy.co.uk



SCAN HERE TO VISIT OUR WEBSITE

Drama Fun Day

October Half-Term

WEDNESDAY 30 OCTOBER
10 AM - 3 PM

CORONATION HALL, ALTON BARNES,
MARLBOROUGH, SN8 4LB



Fun-filled spooky day focussed around drama, developing your creativity, creating your own scenes & confidence boosting.



This drama fun day is tailored for children aged 7-12 who take a liking to drama and performing, but also for those wanting to build confidence and socialise.



Bring your own lunch. All materials needed will be provided.

Please contact Grace for more information:

grace@centrestagedrama.uk

Wednesday 30th October
10am - 3pm
£45



Drama days are run by Grace Dodson, a fully qualified LAMDA teacher, practicing through her company
Centre Stage Drama.
Grace is the resident LAMDA teacher at St John's Marlborough.

Braeside Education Centre



October Half Term Activity Days! £40 per day

Adventure - Challenge - Fun
For ages: 8 - 12 years
(Siblings up to 14 years)

Drop Off - 8:30am - 9:00am
Pick Up - 4:30pm - 5:00pm

Tuesday 29th -
Canoeing
High Ropes Activities



Wednesday 30th -
Mixed Activity Day
Archery, Life Line,
Low Ropes,
Autumnal Keyring Craft

Thursday 31st -
Halloween
Pumpkin Carving
Biscuit Decorating
Rock Painting
Themed Orienteering



Friday 1st November -
Climbing Wall
Zip - Wire
Abseiling



Please book online by visiting
www.braeside-education.co.uk/holiday-club

Contact us for more details;
01380 722637

info@braeside-education.co.uk

Braeside Education Centre

Activities will run in groups, in rotation, throughout the day.



Wiltshire Family and Community Learning

HELPING MY CHILD WITH ANXIETY AND WORRY



Online Course
Tuesday 22 October
10am - 12noon
Booking closes 15 October

Positive and realistic help for family life

- Explore the difference between anxiety and worry
- Understand how anxiety can affect learning
- Learn practical techniques and calming activities
- Manage anxiety and support wellbeing



Our courses are free if you are 19+ and have been a resident in UK/EU for 3+ years and meet eligibility criteria. Please see our website or contact us for more information.

<https://workwiltshire.co.uk/family-and-community-learning/>
01225 770478
familyandcommunitylearning@wiltshire.gov.uk



Wiltshire Council




allthingsautismltd@gmail.com
01895 649211

<https://allthingsinclusionandautism.com>

Workshops for parents / carers (and practitioners) - Autumn term 2024

<p>All things visual strategies Supporting children with autism/ social communication difficulties with visual strategies - why use visuals, which visuals to use and how to use them? Monday 9th December 10 - 11.30am Online - via Zoom £36 per person</p>	<p>Pathological Demand Avoidance (PDA) Understanding PDA and practical strategies to support young children Tuesday 12th November 9.30 - 11.30am Online - via Zoom £44 per person</p>
<p>All things communication and play: Supporting children with autism/ social communication difficulties with communication and play skills - laughing and learning together Tuesday 3rd December 9.30am - 12 Online via Zoom £51 per person</p>	<p>Autism and Girls Exploring differences and diagnosis . Understanding how autism impacts on girls and strategies and ideas to support them Wednesday 4th December 10 - 11.30am Online via Zoom £36 per person</p>
<p>All things behaviour - promoting positive behaviours for children with autism or social communication needs Friday 4th October 9.30am - 12 Online via Zoom £51 per person</p> 	<p>All things sensory - a workshop exploring the sensory needs of children with autism / social communication difficulties and practical strategies to support their needs Thursday 10th October 9.30am - 12 Online via Zoom £51 per person</p> 

<p>All Things Toileting Exploring the challenges of toileting for children with autism / social communication needs and practical strategies to get you started Wednesday 25th September 7 - 8.30pm Online via Zoom £36 per person</p>	<p>Gestalt Language Processing How to support early language skills for young children including Gestalt learners Monday 21st October 7 - 8.30pm Online via Zoom £36 per person</p>
<p>All Things Sleep Looking at the challenges around sleep and bedtime for children with autism / social communication needs and practical strategies to support Thursday 7th November 10 - 11.30am Online via Zoom £36 per person</p>	<p>ADHD Understanding ADHD in young children and practical ideas to support them Monday 11th November 7 - 8.30pm Online via Zoom £36 per person</p>
<p>Supporting children with selective mutism Understanding the causes of selective mutism and strategies to support young children Monday 25th November 7 - 9pm Online via Zoom £44 per person</p>	<p>Promoting positive mental health in young children Examining causes of mental health difficulties, learning about anxiety and trauma Wednesday 27th November 9.30 am - 12 Online via Zoom £51 per person</p>
<p>The Curiosity programme Supporting young children with social interaction and social communication at the earliest stages of their development. Covering all 4 aspects of the programme, how to get started and make connections and nurture social communication 1:1. 5 consecutive Monday mornings (16th, 23rd and 30th September, 7th and 14th October at 9.30 - 10.45am Online via Zoom £210 per person</p> 	

Contact Jaci Smith or Nikki Duhig at allthingsautismltd@gmail.com or 01895 649211 to book your place/s

Park Run – A message from a St. Katharine’s parent:

It is the 20th anniversary of 'the feel good movement' on 5th Oct.

<https://www.parkrun.com/about/our-story/20-years-of-parkrun/>

As a free fun 5km event to run, walk, jog, skip or move in any way, I can highly recommend it to all and would love to see more of the St Kat's family join the community.