



ST KATHARINE'S
C of E
PRIMARY SCHOOL

*Friendship, Effort, Respect,
& Honesty*

Friday 18th October 2024
NEWSLETTER No: 4

Our Value This Term Is...

Courage



Dear Parents,

I sincerely hope that you didn't blink recently because if you did you will have almost certainly missed term 1! Please tell me it isn't just me whose life seems to be on double speed...

Last week we celebrated our Harvest Festival. Thank you to everyone who could make it to church to join us for the service. The church was packed; just how we like it. It was also lovely to welcome Colin Heber-Percy to join us for the celebration. I hope many of you will get to meet him as he works with us throughout the year. We had lots of donations to send off to the Devizes food bank. It is not easy to think about those who are struggling to feed themselves or their families in this or any community. Our contributions will help in some small way to lend our support to those who need it. On Friday a small group of 10 children from years three and four, travelled to Hungerford to take part in a tag rugby festival. We are hugely grateful to Tom Swift and Tom Fortune for supporting us to take part. They have been running a rugby club on Fridays after school since the beginning of term to get the children ready for this event. Reports are that the children played brilliantly and that they had clearly learned lots from their Friday practise sessions. It was a great event with approximately 17 teams competing. These opportunities to play against other local teams in friendly competition are invaluable and help to spark an interest in sport and

all the benefits that it brings. We make a commitment at St Katharine's that everyone will have been involved in a sporting tournament once (at the very least) before they leave us in Year 6 fulfilling what is our belief that primary school sport should be accessed and enjoyed by all.

Ms Jones

Principal

'From little acorns, great oaks grow'



Happy News

This is probably a little late to be proper news for many of you but for any of you that don't yet know, we have exciting news... Miss Denton is engaged to be married this summer, not long after the end of the school year in fact!

Please join me in wishing her and her fiancé Adam huge congratulations on this very happy news!

Attendance Update

Current whole school attendance data: 96.4%

Our end of year attendance target is: 97%

We are increasing the number of attendance audits that we complete from three to six this year. This enables us to track attendance more closely, spot any trends where they exist and act early to support parents if attendance is becoming a concern. The advantage of being part of an academy trust is that there are people in key roles, such as a newly appointed attendance lead, who can support the work of principals, giving advice and guidance where it might be required. Where attendance falls below 90% we will write to you, primarily to flag this to you. Please know that this is done to support parents, keep them informed and to share data transparently with them. We know that children get ill and it is certainly not our intention for parents to feel a pressure to return unwell children to school, too early. That said, knowing that your child's attendance has fallen below 90% (equivalent to 0.5 days a week by the end of the school year) can help you when making decisions about time away from school. Please note that 90% represents different things proportionally at different times of the school year. A few days off early in Term 1 can affect attendance data quite drastically. Please know that we take all of this into account when analysing the data in front of us.

Always talk to us if you are at all concerned about attendance or would like some clarity or more information about the changes to attendance policy. Great school attendance is **always** the result of a partnership.

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 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 – in a bid to win their votes!

School Individual Photos

This week individual school photographs were taken. A flyer from Creative Click was sent home with the children. You have until 10th November to order for free delivery back to school.

Open Morning

We had a very busy Open Morning yesterday with lots of new families coming to look around our wonderful school. As you are all aware, we have 15 reception spaces each year to fill. Whilst I often hear great things about our good reputation from you and others involved with the school, I am never complacent about attracting new families to St Katharine's. Birth rates are falling and as such, as a school without large numbers of children living within catchment, it is important that we are known about. As parents, who have already discovered us and made the choice to send your child here, you are our natural advertisers. Please encourage those that you know, with children due to start school in the near future, to come and have a tour and find out what we are all about. There are still people who aren't aware that there is a primary school, with nearly 100 children on role, down a lane in the middle of Savernake Forest. Please help us to spread the word, loudly and proudly!

St Katharine's Day – Bun Making

We aim to celebrate St Katharine's Day on Monday 25th November with a short service in church at 9:30am. As has become one of our St Katharine's traditions (it's a long story) the children get to eat an iced top bun or more recently an iced cupcake soon this day after the Church service. We are happy to go and buy some iced buns but in recent years a group of parent volunteers have joined forces to make cup-cakes. If you would like to volunteer as a small group (there are 100 cakes needed) please let us know by emailing or calling Hayley in the school office.

They look a bit like this:



Celebration Worship Change – PLEASE NOTE

Please note there will now be **no Celebration Worship** on **Friday 15th November** due to key staff out on training. Please see amended table below.

Celebration Worship
Term 1 & 2

Friday Date	What?
6 th September	No Celebration Worship
13 th September	Celebration Worship
20 th September	Celebration Worship
27 th September	No Celebration Worship
4 th October	Celebration Worship
11 th October	Celebration Worship
18 th October	Oak Class Sharing
8 th November	Celebration Worship
15 th November	Celebration Worship CANCELLED
22 nd November	Sycamore Class Sharing
29 th November	Chestnut Class Sharing
6 th December	Celebration Worship
13 th December	Celebration Worship
20 th December	Home Purple Learning Achievements
	Last Day of Term 2 No Celebration Worship

Primary School Applications

The national deadline for applying for a primary school place is 15th January 2025. Please ensure that you have your application in by that date if you have a sibling (of a child already in school) due to start with us in September 2025.

Secondary School Applications

The national deadline date for applying for secondary school places is 31 October 2024.

It is essential that Year 6 parents submit an application on time to ensure the best possible chance of securing a place at a preferred school.

Applications need to be in **by midnight on 31 October 2024**. Applications can be submitted using the Wiltshire Council Parent Portal using [this link](#).

Christmas Lunch

This year our school Christmas lunch will be on **Wednesday 11th December**. SBC will only be providing a 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 – Friday 15th November

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.

Thank you to...

Thank you to all of the parents that offered their support to cut and laminate all of our phonics reading cards. The help was very much appreciated.

Message on behalf of the PTA

Bonfire Night - Friday 8th November

A big thank you to everyone who has purchased tickets and for all the volunteers who have put their names forward for Bonfire Night on Friday 8th November!!! We still have tickets available and a few slots left on the volunteer list. Tickets will go on general sale over half term so please book quickly if you would like to come!!

Tickets can be purchased from www.pta-events.co.uk/stkatharines

Also we shall be looking for sweet tombola donations for Bonfire Night when we get back from Half Term so if you have any sweets left over from Halloween please fill a glass jar and donate to us if you can!

School Uniform – donating or buying pre-loved uniform

If you have uniform to donate or would like some pre-loved items follow this process. Please ask a member of the PTA if you still aren't sure:

- Take a picture of your preloved item then post on the donation station what's app including age/size information
- £1 for non-branded clothing
- £2 for branded clothing
- Place item in the donation station box, located in the staff carpark
- Please collect items within a week (otherwise the damp sets in!)
- Pay using the PayPal link in the what's app group (remember to choose friends and family, so the school gets all money)

PTA members are happy to collect branded clothes to sell at the big events.

Christmas Wreath Workshops

Tickets for Pip and Tamsyn's Wreath Workshop will be going on sale on Monday 21st October!

There are two dates available- Thursday 28th from 7.30pm and Friday 30th from 10am. Tickets are £35 per person and include everything that you will need to create a Christmas Wreath for your door!!

Refreshments will be provided.

Tickets will be available from www.pta-events.co.uk/stkatharines from Monday 21st October at 6pm.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

November	
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
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 2.30pm – 3.15pm
	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
<i>December</i>	
Thursday 5 th	Flu Nasal Spray Vaccinations R-Year 6
Sunday 15 th	Nine Lesson Service in Church 6.00pm – still TBC
Monday 16 th	Tall Tales performance of The Snow Queen
Tuesday 17 th	Reception and KS1 Nativity dress rehearsal 2pm – parents and grandparents welcome
Wednesday 18 th	Reception and KS1 Nativity in Church (4.45pm drop) 5.00pm-6.30pm
Thursday 19 th	Christmas Party afternoon and Christmas Jumper Day <i>Children will be in Christmas jumpers, no party clothes or food needed</i>
Friday 20 th	KS2 Carol Service in Church 9.30am
	Last day of Term 2

Remaining TD Days 2024/25

21st, 22nd, 23rd October 2024

Please Note

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

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 resnt at the beginning of Terms 3 and 5.

Other things you might want to know...

Hosted by *Jamsyn Kerr and Pip Blanchard*

at
New Barn Farm
Savernake
SN8 3JY

Join us for *festive wreath making*

on
Thursday 28th November

7:30pm - 9:30pm

&
Friday 29th November

10am - 12am

Equipment and light refreshments provided. If you have a pair of secateurs, please bring these along and an apron!

All proceeds going to Friends of St Katharine's School

£35/ticket available to purchase from
www.pta-events.co.uk/stkatharines



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.

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

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

BOOK ONLINE AT www.in2sportcoaching.co.uk



Savernake Forest & Farm Holiday Club

October Half-Term
8AM-6PM

Only £43.50 per day excluding outing surcharges

8AM-1PM sessions **£30.75** per day
8AM-3PM sessions **£37.10** per day
1PM-6PM sessions **£30.75** per day



Thursday 24th October
Beale Wildlife Park | +£13.50

Friday 25th October
Costume Party

Monday 28th October
Halloween Crafts

Tuesday 29th October
Dinton Pastures Country Park | +£5

Wednesday 30th October
Forest School

Thursday 31st October
Pumpkin Picking & Carving | +£5

Friday 1st November
Science Experiments



01672 870790 charlie@avenue-nursery.co.uk

Warren Courtyard, Savernake Forest, Near Marlborough, SN8 3UU

Braeside's Able, Gifted, Talented and Enrichment course pack for Autumn/Winter 2024-2025 is available. The courses run from November 2024-February 2025.

All details of individual courses can be obtained from the website, as well as a full downloadable pdf version of the whole booklet. Please visit: braeside-education.co.uk



OCTOBER HALF TERM FOOTBALL SKILLS AND DEVELOPMENT

- CHIPPENHAM CAMP - 24TH OCTOBER
- BURBAGE CAMP - 24TH OCTOBER
- MELKSHAM CAMP - 25TH OCTOBER
- CORSHAM CAMP - 31ST OCTOBER

- HIGHLY QUALIFIED FA FOOTBALL COACHES
- ENHANCED DBS CHECKED & FIRST AIDERS
- GUARANTEED TO INSPIRE, CHALLENGE & EXCITE ALL LEVELS OF FOOTBALLERS



OCTOBER HALF TERM Holiday Clubs with Grittleton Adventures

- For ages 8-12 years
- Monday-Friday from 8.30am till 5.30pm
- Just £40 per Day
- Extended Day 8am-6pm available
- All your favourite activities
 - Archery - Climbing - Low Ropes - Zorbs and More

TO BOOK VISIT:
www.grittleton-adventures.co.uk

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT US
ON: 01249 783203
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Find us at
Grittleton Adventures
Grittleton House
The Street
Grittleton
SN14 6AP



Autumnal days in The TreeHouse ...

Come and join us for glorious half term days packed with adventures and experiences



We are trialling a couple of fairly significant changes at our October club ...

TIMINGS * 8.30am to 5pm each day**

FOOD * bring your own packed lunch**

Opening times & costs

8.30am - 5pm - £38.95 per day + activity and fuel supplements

Early Bird drop off from 7.50am is £5.25 per day

Prices include morning and afternoon snacks

Thursday 24 October

Park & Ride City Trippers

To Salisbury Cathedral, Close and Cloisters via the joy of a ride on a Big Bus!

Supplement £3

Friday 25 October

Moors Valley Country Park

Glorious play trails, amazing adventure play areas. So much to do here ...

Supplement £3

Monday 28 October

Milestones Museum

Back to Victorian times on the cobbled streets of one of our favourite museums ...

Supplement £5

Tuesday 29 October

Easton Farm Pumpkin Patch Park

Picking and carving pumpkins. Hay bale play. Tractors!

Supplement £3

Fully Booked

Weds 30 October

Savernake Forest

It's hard to beat running wild in a forest. Wrap up warm and maximise time outdoors while we can!

Thursday 31 October

Bridge End Alpacas

Meet & Feed. Walking. Super day with these adorable alpacas

Supplement £7.50

Friday 1 November

Winchester Science Centre

Brilliant interactive adventure - hands on science and nature for the Curiosity Club

Supplement £7.50

Cancellations & absence

If you cancel at short notice (less than 1 week) we will try to fill the place. If we can fill the space you will not be charged but if not, payment in full is required. In the event of missed days due to sickness we are not able to offer a refund.

A healthy place to be

We depend on each other to keep Sunflowers and TreeHouse a healthy place to be. Avoiding the spread of any sort of unwell'ness is always a priority. Children (and our team) need to be tip-top to cope with an active and busy day so please don't bring children in if they are unwell.

Additional support

We welcome children of all abilities and needs and ask that you contact us directly to discuss individual needs as we may require enhanced ratios to support your child. Please contact us to start a conversation.

Not just childcare ... great days in The TreeHouse. For information or to reserve places call 01672 810478 or email admin@sunflowers-grafton.co.uk



WILTSHIRE MUSIC CENTRE

Charity MUSICAL BINGO night

£12 pp or 4 for £40 (inc. drink on arrival)

FUN GAMES - DRINKS - FOOD - PRIZES

A fun and entertaining night of bingo reimagined - with a musical twist!

WED 23 OCT 5.30PM for 7PM

Wiltshire Music Centre, Bradford on Avon, BA15 1DZ

WILTSHIRE MUSIC CENTRE

★ COME AND JOIN THE FUN! ★

LISTEN FOR THE POP SONG TITLES, THEN MARK THEM OFF ON YOUR BINGO CARD!

FUNDRAISING FOR BRADFORD ON AVON'S COMMUNITY CONCERT HALL

EVENING TO INCLUDE:

FOOD BY FEAST BROTHERS,	WELCOME DRINK ON ARRIVAL	LIVE MUSIC FROM COVERS BAND FLQ
4 PRIZE-WINNING ROUNDS	OPTIONAL FANCY DRESS COMPETITION	LICENSED BAR

FEAST BROTHERS | **THE GREAT WINE CO.** | **BOOK NOW 01225 860100** | | Registered Charity number 1220100