



**ST KATHARINE'S
C of E
PRIMARY SCHOOL**

*Friendship, Effort, Respect,
& Honesty*

**Friday 17th January 2025
NEWSLETTER No: 9**

Our Value This Term Is...

Thankfulness



Dear Parents,

For someone who you will probably know quite likes words and having written quite a few of them in the preceding weeks, I hope you can forgive me for not quite knowing what to say in the first newsletter of the new year. It has been huge, for all of us. Thankfully the calendar has been kind to us, other than a return to the everyday of classroom learning the last two weeks have been without the usual hub-bub of trips and visits. Next week marks the end of that, with the first trip of the new year. On Monday Oak class are visiting the Steam Museum in Swindon in support of their block of learning on Transport, with a specific focus on the engineers Isambard Kingdom Brunel and John Rennie. You will see from the calendar that there is more to come! Thank you once again for the kindness and offers of support that you have given to our staff team during this very sad time.

We are very thankful to all of you.

Ms Jones

Extra TD Day April 2026

Please note that there is a 6th TD day added to next year's school calendar. This is an Excalibur Trust-wide day that will enable cross school work to take place. A new 25-26 school calendar was sent out, along with Key Dates Planner 2, last week. Please note that both of these documents are now on the [website](#).

Savernake Fun Run

We are thrilled to announce that the Savernake Fun Run will return this summer on **Saturday 28th June 2025**.

This will be the fifth Savernake Fun Run hosted by St Katharine's Primary School, with the last event taking place back in July 2019! As with previous events, the event is open to the whole family with 10km and 3km distances available.

Both races start and finish on the field at St. Katharine's Primary School and, with the kind permission of Mr Rokos and with the support of the Estate Manager and Security team from Tottenham House, the new route takes runners through beautiful private fields and woodland that is not generally open to the public, with stunning views of the Wiltshire countryside. There will be winner prizes in both adult and child categories plus every competitor will receive a custom-made medal on completion.

As usual, there will be tea/coffee, delicious cakes and bacon sandwiches on the school field for runners and supporters! This has typically been a hugely popular event, attracting interest from the school community but also wider running groups, with competitors joining us from as far as Bath! All funds raised from the event will go to the St Katharine's PTA to support the school. More details will follow in the coming weeks and months, including how to register for entry, but please put the date in your diary now and help us to spread the word to friends and family.

If you have any questions, please email run@savernake10k.co.uk

Emergency Closures

With the colder weather here, 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.

Clubs and Music Providers – contact details

We are delighted to be adding drumming to our list of music lessons available to KS2 children. The children who have chosen to learn drumming had a taster session with Harry on Thursday 16th January; regular lessons will start on 31st January.

We are fortunate to have a range of different clubs to

offer our children (please also see parent section of the website for information). If you are interested in signing your child up for clubs or additional music lessons please use the contact details below to make an enquiry about spaces.

Music:

Drumming: Matt Clements
mattcdrumtuition@gmail.com

Year groups 3-6

Guitar: Tom Evans
nextgenmusic tuition@gmail.com

Year groups 1-6

Piano: Michael Lucas
Michaellucaspiano@icloud.com

Year groups 1-6

1-1 singing: Laura Barker
Laura.barker@movingmusic.co

Year group 1-6

We also have the following clubs:

Drawing Club: Hannah Phillips
tillyandwilson@hotmail.com
 Tues after school – Year groups 3-6

Dodgeball
info@in2sportcoaching.co.uk
 Lunch time – Mon: Year groups 3-6
 Wed: Year groups Reception-2

Football
info@in2sportcoaching.co.uk
 After school – Mon: Year groups 1-3
 Wed: Year groups 4-6

Drama: Lizzie Lewis
 This club is currently paused while Lizzie finalises her work schedule and availability.

In the list above, please note the change of email address for guitar lessons with Tom. If you would like to get in touch about guitar please ensure you use this new email address going forward (nextgenmusic tuition@gmail.com).

There are other clubs (i.e running club/ rugby) that crop up throughout the year. Information about these will be emailed to the relevant Year group/s as and when available. On this note, our thanks go to Mr Swift and Mr Coates for running the Tag Rugby club which started today (17th January) for year groups 5 and 6, preparing the children for the upcoming Tag Rugby Festival in March.

Wiltshire Treehouse

Please find on the Noticeboard a leaflet giving details about Wiltshire Treehouse; a local charity which supports children and young people who have been affected by the death of someone important to them. We are providing this in case it is useful.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

<i>January</i>	
Friday 17 th	First TAG Rugby after school club Sycamore Class
Monday 20 th	Oak Class trip to STEAM Museum, Swindon
Friday 24 th	Mobile library visiting
Thursday 30 th	Crofton Beam Engines representative visiting Oak Class at School
<i>February</i>	
Friday 7 th	Movie Night PTA
Tuesday 11th	BBC Live lessons – Safer Internet Day (NOTE CHANGE OF DATE)
Thursday 13th	Final Lego after school club session
Friday 14 th	Last day of Term 3
Monday 24 th	First day of Term 4
Wednesday 26 th	Year 5/6 Hockey at Marlborough College (Small group) (Please note that we are no longer attending)
Thursday 27 th	Lego League Competition Bristol (Lego Club attendees) Oak Class Cricket event at Marlborough Leisure Centre
Friday 28 th	KS2 SATs Information Session for parents 2.45pm (NOTE CHANGE OF TIME) This will take place during Celebration Worship
<i>March</i>	
Tuesday 4th	Dentist visit Hazel Class
Friday 7th	World Book Day Final TAG Rugby after school club session Sycamore Class
Thursday 13th	Year 5/6 TAG Rugby event at Marlborough Rugby Club (AM)
Wednesday 19th	Chestnut Class visit to Cheddar Gorge

Monday 24th	Sharing our Learning afternoon - parents invited in from 2.30pm until 3.15pm
Tuesday 25th	3.30pm – 5:30pm Parents Evening 2 whole school
Thursday 27th	3.30pm – 7.00pm Parents Evening 2 whole school
Friday 28th	Mothers' Day shop PTA
	Bunny Bop PTA

Please also refer to the **Key Dates Planner V2** *which was sent out recently*, that includes all the dates that we know of for the remainder of the 2024/25 academic year (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 is resented at the beginning of Term 5.

Please Note

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

Other things you might want to know...



SCHOOL HOLIDAY MULTI SPORT CAMPS

FOR AGES 5 - 12 YEARS

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

Dates: 17th & 18th FEBRUARY 2025

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

Time: 9am - 3pm (8am - 4pm available) Cost: £25.00 (EARLY BIRD OFFER)

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

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Level 3:	Level 3 Certificate in the Principles of Special Educational Needs

Please go to our website address above, for more information.

*Please take note of the online live webinar sessions that **MUST** be attended to complete this full time 6 week course, and the ESFA's (Education Skills Funding Agency) eligibility criteria.

How to access our services?

Parents and family members:

To access our support please complete our referral form, found on our website. If you need help with the form please email or call us, we'll be happy to help.

A note to our professional colleagues:

We welcome all enquiries from professionals. However, please note that we operate on a self referral basis and ask that families complete the referral themselves. We will consider exceptional circumstances, please contact us if you'd like to discuss making a referral.

Contact us

Phone: 01793 987105 extension 1

Website: www.wiltshiretreehouse.org.uk

Email: admin@wiltshiretreehouse.org.uk

Address: Wiltshire Treehouse, Westlea School, Langstone Way, Swindon, SN5 7BT.



Who we are?

Registered in 2014, Wiltshire Treehouse provides bereavement support to children, young people and their families.

Our staff and volunteers are highly trained and skilled in bereavement support. Providing a safe space to explore and better understand grief and the effects it has upon the lives of children and young people.



To find out more about our charity or for a wealth of useful resources you can explore our website.

Could you help?

As a charity we depend upon fundraising, donations and volunteers to keep providing our services.

We have opportunities to volunteer for adults and young people within our programme delivery or as Trustees. You could also get involved by fundraising as individuals, community groups, schools or businesses, just head to our website and look at the 'Join Us' page.

Any amount can help, from £1 to £1,000. So if you can, we ask you to consider donating. Just follow our QR code that will lead you to our PayPal donate page.



Grief support for children and young people in Swindon & Wiltshire
Registered Charity 1159719

Members of:
CHILDHOOD BEREAVEMENT NETWORK

Our vision



Wiltshire Treehouse wants to see a world where every bereaved child and young person can receive guidance and support to help them through their grieving process. We will enable those in our local communities to develop the coping strategies, skills and confidence they need to thrive.

When someone close dies children experience a rollercoaster of different emotions; anger, sadness, guilt, shock. This is normal but can be very hard to deal with, especially if children cannot find the support they need.

Our support

Wiltshire Treehouse offers advice and creative programmes that support the social and emotional wellbeing of bereaved children and young people.



We provide a safe, relaxed and inclusive environment in which people can explore and grow to understand their grief. Children can meet others, share stories, make a connection and help each other. Whilst parents/carers also benefit from increased confidence and knowledge on how to support their child, along with the opportunity to meet fellow bereaved parents/carers.

What our beneficiaries say

"I felt really lost and upset, even angry. I deal with these feelings today and it's okay."



"I often feel very sad but I feel safe here."

"It's easier to talk to people here, it helped me open up."

"I didn't want to go at first but it has been really helpful, thank you."

"I've been able to cope a lot better & be happier because I got a lot off my chest"

"I remember feeling relieved knowing that my child would be able to spend time with others in a similar situation."

"Me and my son are much closer since the group, he now talks to me openly about his mum."



"S has been doing really well since NEST. She is in a much better place and very aware of the people around her that she can talk to. Thank you!"

What we offer

Advice & information

We can provide advice, guidance and reassurance to children, young people, parents & carers. We can do this over the phone, on video call or email. You'll also find lots of useful resources on our website: www.wiltshiretreehouse.org.uk

Family programme - for 6-11yr olds

Specially designed for 6-11yr olds and their parent(s)/guardian(s). Our Family Programme uses practical activities that provide children and members of their family the opportunity to express their thoughts and feelings together, and alongside other families.

'NEST' group programme - for 11-18yr olds

NEST has been designed to meet the needs of grieving young people. By using creative activities NEST provides the opportunity to explore thoughts, feelings and coping strategies, alongside peers.

Other face to face support

In exceptional circumstances we can arrange for children and young people to be supported on a 1 to 1 basis.

Training and support for professionals

We offer phone/email advice and guidance to professionals, enabling them to be responsive to the needs of grieving children. Wiltshire Treehouse also offer bespoke training to meet the needs of your organisation. Email us to make an enquiry on how we can help.

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wiltshiremusic.org.uk



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Charity number: 1026160