



ST KATHARINE'S
C of E
PRIMARY SCHOOL

*Friendship, Effort, Respect,
& Honesty*

Friday 7th March 2025
NEWSLETTER No: 12

Our Value This Term Is...



Dear Parents,

There has been a strange yellow object in the sky in recent days. It radiates a faint warmth, is very bright and has the effect of making anyone who sees it feel cheerful... I am reliably informed it is called the sun! Term 4 is now in full swing and the calendar is full of many interesting and exciting things for the children to engage with. Last week our Lego team travelled to Bristol to take part in the Lego-league competition. The many weeks of preparation paid off as they came in 3rd overall place and winning 1st prize for 'Innovation'. This prize was awarded for their research and innovation around the theme of underwater exploration. The Judges were, as their placing indicates, very impressed. Mr Sandall was a very proud man! Thank you to Mr Jellicoe who supported the transport of the team. Below is the latest of our Lego League trophies that they brought back from Bristol with them. Well done to Kitty, Vesper, Arabella, Flo, Fianna, Ruby, and Jack.



This week Hazel class had a visit from the dentist. They talked about looking after their teeth, not only by brushing regularly but also by choosing the right foods to eat and the best drinks to protect teeth from decay. They all took home a goody bag of things to help them do just that.

We have enjoyed another great World Book Day celebration in school today. The children thought carefully about their choice of characters from a vast array of children's books. Every year I am amazed by how many incredible texts are out there for children to engage with. World Book Days alone don't make for great readers but they do help to promote and share a love of reading. Being a strong reader is perhaps the most critical building block of any when we think about children making good progress in school. We know that on transfer to secondary school it is an age-appropriate reading level that supports success in the Key Stage 3 curriculum. The more we can build enjoyment **in** and a love **of** books and stories the easier this task becomes.

Ms Jones

'From little acorns, great oaks grow'



Celebration Worship (slight change)

**Celebration Worship
Term 3 & 4**

Friday Date	What?
10 th January	Celebration Worship
17 th January	Celebration Worship
24 th January	Celebration Worship
31 st January	<i>Oak Class Sharing</i>
7 th February	No Celebration Worship
14 th February	<i>Sycamore-Class-Sharing (now 23.5)</i> No Celebration Worship - PTA Valentines event
28 th February	Celebration Worship
7 th March	No Celebration Worship - World Book Day
14 th March	<i>*Hazel Class Sharing</i>
21 st March	<i>*Chestnut Class</i>
28 th March	No Celebration Worship - Bunny Bop
4 th April	No Celebration Worship - Easter Service

** please note that Hazel and Chestnut sharing assemblies have now swapped. Sorry for any inconvenience caused*

A Very Important Welcome

I am not sure that this will come as news to many of you but I wanted share with you how delighted we are to be welcoming Mrs Leah Joddrell to the staff team here at St Katharine's, in the capacity of a learning support assistant (LSA) and supporting both Mrs

Groves and Mrs Jowdie at lunch time as a mid-day support assistant. Mrs Jodrell was successful at interview in the final week of Term 3. She begins her new role next week on Thursday 13th March. She will be working, as do all of our support assistants, across all classes supporting classroom learning as well as interventions for small groups and individuals.

A Memorial Service for Mrs Crewe

You will have received a request today to fill in a form saying whether you are attending Mrs Crewe's Memorial and how many of your family you expect to be there. Please do take the time to complete this as it will help us to plan for this service to run smoothly.

Attendance Update

Current whole school attendance data: 96.1%

Our end of year attendance target is: 97%

Thank you for your continued support with this and for taking our increased focus around attendance onboard.

Sharing Our Learning Afternoon

Prior to parents' evenings (on 25th and 27th March) there is an opportunity for you to come into school from **2:30pm on Monday 24th March** to share books with your child/ren. We hope this will give you a bit of context before meeting with your child's teacher and enable you to share the progress that your child is making and the things that they are proud of. Once you have finished, we are happy for children to go home a little early providing you let the class teacher know. Please use the classroom entrances or come through reception.

Parents' Evenings

Parents will have received an email today giving details about the upcoming Parents' Evenings happening on **25th and 27th March**. The sessions are being held via video call. The booking window for making appointments is Monday 10th to Thursday 20th March.

Red Nose Day – March 21st

We are asking that children come to school wearing something red or, if children have a red-nose day T-shirt or other item of clothing related to this annual fund-raiser, they can wear that. This is not a non-school uniform day so these items are in place of an item of uniform. Class teachers will give clear instructions to the children about this. Please send your child to school with a donation for this worthy cause. We are suggesting £1 - £2.

Bookmarks and Healthy Cakes Sale

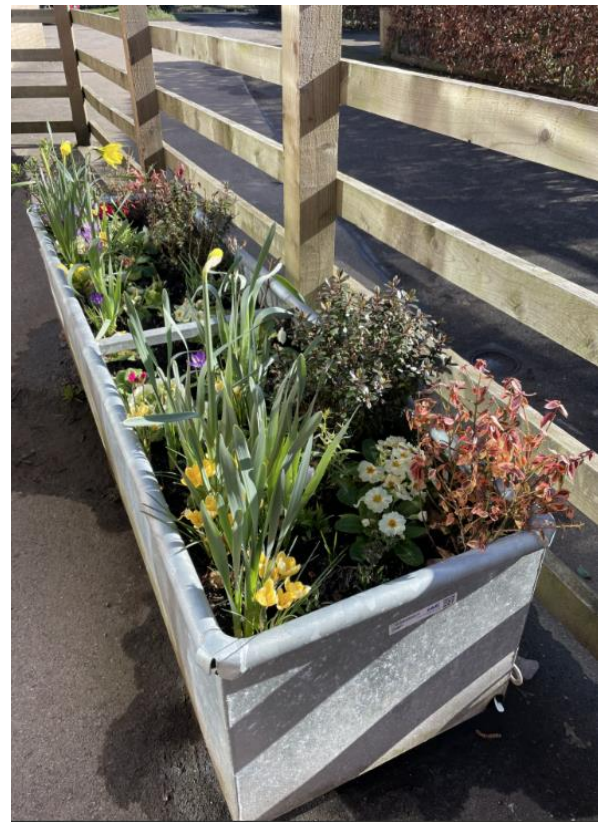
The School Council are holding a sale of handmade bookmarks plus healthy cakes and biscuits on **25th April** to raise money to buy equipment for Forest School. If you have any beads or plastic thread which can be reused and you are happy to donate, please send them into school for Mrs Ellaby so they can be reused by the children. We would also be grateful for any healthy cakes or biscuits sent into school on the day (25th April), helping to support our healthy schools award. Items will be available to buy for a donation of £1 or more if you are feeling generous!

The Big Plastic Count

A letter was sent out to parents this week by The School Council giving details about 'The Big Plastic Count'. This is a great initiative which gets the children thinking about what happens to our plastic waste. Please support us by taking part and completing the Tally Sheet with your child from **Monday 11th March** until **Monday 17th March**.

Flowers

If you haven't already, when you are next at school, please do take the time to admire the plants in the trough and containers near the front of the school. Our thanks go to Mrs Coates for such a beautiful display. It really does brighten the school grounds.



Key Found

A key has been found on the school playground. If you have lost a key with a pink fob attached please get in touch with Hayley in the office.

Braeside Courses

New courses are available for parents to book at Braeside Education Centre for [Spring/Summer 25](#). These courses are for children with a passion in or a talent for a particular subject. Courses take place during the school day and are paid for by parents. If this is something that interests you, please contact Braeside directly to [book courses](#) or to find out more about the suitability of a course for your child. If you would like more information, we are also happy to talk this through with you.

Contact details for Braeside are:

Telephone: 01380 722637

Messages from the PTA

Please see below some of the events happening over the next few weeks. More details will follow soon but please be aware of the following events.

The Mother's Day Pop Up Shop is back this year and we have some lovely gifts for children to purchase on Friday 28th March for £5 (1 per child).

This year's **Easter Bonnet Parade** will be held as part of the Easter Service on **Friday 4th April**. We are looking forward to seeing all of the children's creations!

The PTA will be running a Maypole Dancing Club after the Easter break in the run up to the School Fete on Saturday 7th June. We will be looking for dancers to perform at the fete!!!

Bunny Bop

The PTA Bunny Bop will be on **Friday 28th March** from 5.30 - 7pm.

We would like to invite all St Katharine's children to join us for a bit of disco dancing fun - tickets are on sale through our website:

www.pta-events.co.uk/stkatharines

tickets are priced at £5 each and will include light refreshments (squash, 1 bag of crisps, 1 bag of sweets), UV paint and tattoos - Children will not need any cash on the night!

KS1 Children will need to be accompanied by an adult and we are afraid that we can't extend this invitation to younger siblings due to numbers.

There will be a quieter area for children and a separate area for adults to enjoy a cup of tea or coffee!

We hope the children enjoy this event - party clothes at the ready!!!

When booking your ticket you will be asked for a song choice to be added to our playlist.

Savernake Fun Run

As planning is now well underway, we wanted to provide further details of the Savernake Fun Run taking place on **Saturday 28th June 2025**.

As in previous years, there will be a 10k and a 3k race, with a medal for every finisher. The 10k race kicks off at 9:30am, with the 3k following at 11:00am.

The 3k race is suitable for adults and children of all ages, we often have very young children taking part (children under 8 years must have an adult running with them). The 10k is also open to children, but those under 16 must have an adult running with them.

Whether you are a seasoned runner or a novice, the variety will spur you on as you pass buildings dating back to the 16th century, ancient woodland and a deer park. Our continued thanks go to Mr Rokos and the Estate Manager and Security team from Tottenham House for their support to enable this event to proceed.

The event website is now live with loads more information. **Go to www.savernake10k.co.uk, and be sure to join our [Facebook Group](#) too!** A huge thank you to Leeann Stevenson for volunteering her time and expertise to create the website for us. If you have any questions, please email me at run@savernake10k.co.uk

Georgie Franklin



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

March	
Friday 7 th	World Book Day Dress Up Final TAG Rugby after school club session Sycamore Class
Tuesday 11 th – Monday 17 th	The Big Plastic Count
Thursday 13 th	TAG Rugby Tournament Y5/6 Marlborough Rugby Club (am)

NOTE UPDATE OF VENUE	
Wednesday 19 th	Chestnut Class trip to Cheddar Gorge
Friday 21 st	Mobile Library visiting
	Red Nose Day
Monday 24 th	Sharing our Learning afternoon - parents invited in from 2.30pm until 3.15pm
Tuesday 25 th	3.30pm–5:30pm Parents Evening 2 (Oak, Chestnut and Sycamore classes)
Thursday 27 th	3.30pm–7.00pm Parents Evening 2 whole school
Friday 28 th	PTA Mother's Day Shop
	PTA Bunny Bop 5.30pm-7pm
<i>April</i>	
Tuesday 1 st	Y3/4 Cricket Festival at St. Katharine's (small group)
Wednesday 2 nd	Trees Project Chestnut Class
April 3 rd	Mrs Crewe's Memorial Service St Katharine's Church @ 5:00pm All Welcome
April 4 th	Easter Service St Katharine's Church 9:30 am Including the Easter Bonnet Parade
	Last Day of Term 4
Tuesday 22 nd	First Day of Term 5
	Reception Class visit to Sir Harold Hillier Gardens
Wednesday 23 rd	Accelerated Maths Day St Johns (small group)
Thursday 24 th	First After School Running Club Year 2-6 (details to follow)
Friday 25 th	Bookmarks and Healthy Cakes and Biscuits Sale After School (details to follow)
Tuesday 29 th	Scootability Years 1-6 (details to follow) NOTE CHANGE OF DATE

<i>May</i>	
Friday 2 nd	Whole School Cricket Taster Day
Monday 5 th	May Day Holiday School Closed
Monday 12 th – Friday 16 th	Key Stage 2 SATs week
Friday 16 th	Chestnut Class Stone Age morning Oxenwood visiting school
	Mobile Library visiting
Sunday 18 th	Restless Development Triathlon Event
Tuesday 20 th	Year 6 pre-residential parents meeting 3.15pm
Wednesday 21 st	Sex and Relationships Information Evening for parents 2.30pm
Friday 23 rd	Walk Safe Sessions Years 1,3 and 6
	Last Day of Term 5

Please also refer to the **Key Dates Planner V2**, 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 sent 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...



JUNIOR BAKE OFF

JOIN THE CLASS OF 2025!

JUNIOR BAKE OFF

... IS LOOKING FOR BRILLIANT BAKERS, AGES 9-15 FOR THE NEXT NEW AND EXCITING SERIES!

APPLICATIONS CLOSE
SUNDAY 23RD MARCH

APPLYFORJUNIORBAKEOFF.CO.UK



BUNNY BOP

Friday 28th
March
2025

5.30pm - 7pm at
School

Entry £5

Ticket includes:
Light Refreshments
UV Paint
Temporary Tattoos

KS1 children to be
accompanied by an
adult

Tickets available at
<https://www.pta-events.com/stkatharines>

Due to safety reasons we can't allow younger siblings. The event will be for St Katharines pupils only.

STUDY SMART
Free Online Courses

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Education & Skills Funding Agency

Fully Funded School Support Course

Available in Levels 1, 2 & 3

*Please go to our website for more detailed information.

6 Week Course
Mon - Fri
Daily sessions
1st session 9:30 - 11:30am
2nd session 12:30 - 2pm

www.studysmartuk.online

We are looking to fill 150+ School Support vacancies in local schools (e.g. SEN Support, Behaviour Mentors, 1-1 Classroom Support, Cover Supervisors etc). These roles are available in both full time and part time positions.

Please go to our website address given above, or scan the QR code for more information.

This is a 6 week course, full time, intensive course, with online guided learning sessions within school hours.
If you are earning less than £23,500 per annum or are in receipt of any benefits, you will be eligible for a fully funded place with us.



Fun Creative Active Events SPORTS CAMPS

MARLBOROUGH ST.MARY'S PRIMARY SCHOOL
POLEHAMPTON JUNIOR SCHOOL (TWYFORD)

£30 A DAY 8.30AM-5PM 5-11 YEAR OLDS

HEAD TO WWW.FACESPORTS.CO.UK TO BOOK

FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK AND INSTAGRAM

FACE Sports Club

facesportsclub



Marlborough

MONDAY 7th

GLADIATORS / Football
Bowling / Dodgeball



TUESDAY 8th

Fencing / Benchball / Archery
Tennis / Corner Ball / Nerf

WEDNESDAY 9th

Wheelie Wednesday / Football / Basketball
Danish Longball / Badminton / Flag Football



THURSDAY 10th

Curling & Boccia / Nerf / Tag Rugby
Uni-Hoc / Volleyball / Cricket

PLUS daily free play sessions!

Marlborough

MONDAY 14th

Oreinteering / Cricket / Uni-Hoc
Tri-Golf / Benchball / Floor is Lava

TUESDAY 15th

Football / Tennis / Tag Rugby
Handball / Kick Cricket / Athletics

WEDNESDAY 16th

Wheelie Wednesday / Archery / Dodgeball
Corner Ball / Rounders / Badminton

THURSDAY 17th

Hide & Seek / Football / Frisbee Golf
Nerf / Gymnastics / Netball



PLUS daily free play sessions!