



St. Katharine's C.E. (V.A.) Primary School

Whole School Newsletter

10th September 2021



Our worship
Theme is:
Flourishing

Worship

It was fantastic to hold our first whole school worship this week and it was a memorable one where Mrs St John almost fell over in her paddling pool in the middle of the hall! We all reflected on how thankful we are to live 'beside the seaside' and how we want to flourish in the coming year. "I have come that you may have life; life in all its fullness." John 10:10. This Bible verse features on one of the SEASIDE pages of our vision book 'Forever Flourishing'- take a look as you'll be hearing lots about it this year. If you want a reminder of what our SEASIDE curriculum is, have a look at our website: <https://www.stkatharinesceprimary.co.uk/seaside-curriculum>

End of day

Thank you for your patience and co-operation this week when collecting the children. Three factors will begin to ease any congestion: clubs start next week so there will be less parents outside at 3:15; teachers and parents will start to recognise each other and you and your child will find a pattern that works; we won't have parents remaining at the fence/gate to come and see the classrooms. It would be really helpful if year 4 parents keep further to the right on the two pavements (school car park end), year 3 parents standing back near the lamppost and bin towards the houses and allow year 2 parents to stand near the fence and smaller gate. Please can all parents avoid standing in the actual gate areas so that children can get through. Thank you.

COVID-19 update

We ask that parents **only** notify the school if your child tests positive on a **PCR** test. The guidance is that if your child is displaying any of the main three symptoms (a new continuous cough, and/or a temperature and/or a loss of, or change to, sense of taste and/or smell), they must not attend school and you should book a **PCR test** for them. Primary age children should **not** be taking part in lateral flow testing. The DfE have said that schools will no longer be expected to undertake contact tracing but in reality, BCP and Public Health Dorset are asking us to pass on anonymised confirmed cases and to play a part in identifying close contacts where necessary. They have also given schools template letters to continue to send home, so you may still receive confirmed case notifications from us. Children under 18 and 6 months are exempt from isolation, so if your child is identified as a close contact by the child/their parent or the school, you will be asked to book a PCR test for them. They do not have to isolate whilst waiting for the result. In school, we are following DfE and local BCP/Public Health guidance.

Club pick-ups

All children will be released from clubs on the front playground, whichever year group they are in. Please can parents wait at the front fence. The person leading the club will bring the children out and open the gate.

Breakfast Club Drop Off

Our breakfast club provision has resumed its normal hours with an early and late session. Please check carefully which entrance you need to use to sign your child into Breakfast Club.

7:45: Drop off by EY door. Press the buzzer and a member of staff will collect your child.

8:15: Drop off by modular building/bike shed and use the walkie talkie to let a member of staff know you are there. Somebody will come and collect your child.



Important
Information



Year 6 Social Action

We have young Agents of Change in our ranks! Some children who have now moved up to Year 6 wrote of their concerns about climate justice to our local MP right at the end of last term. We have now recently received an official House of Commons letter from Tobias Ellwood in which he states, "Whilst I often get sent letters from school pupils, I am particularly impressed by the level of insight and depth of understanding by your year group, which is a great testament to your teachers and I sincerely hope you continue to show a keen interest in this important matter." How exciting! Children will have more opportunities to get involved in important social actions this year. Mrs Dickinson

The Studio

If you came in this week, you will have seen our fabulous new studio room. Now our additional class bulge year groups have moved on, we have been able to knock through the two spare classrooms to form a brilliant additional creative space for the children. The studio will enhance our SEASIDE curriculum and be used for drama, art, dance, visitors, worship and many other activities before, during and after school.



Toilet Twinning

Mrs Kennedy showed the whole school this week, using Google Earth, the exact spot that the toilet block we have been twinned with is in Uganda. The children had an amazing 'wow' (spiritual) moment - there were lots of gasps and wide-eyes! Latitude: -1.247637 Longitude: 30.070165 Mugandu, Rubaya, Kabale District. Thank you to FSK for organising this with toilet twinning.org

Parent Helpers

Now that restrictions have eased, we would love to welcome parent helpers again to support with reading and school trips. We have greatly missed the extra support given by so many parent helpers and we are keen to use the enthusiasm and skills you bring. If you would like to volunteer as a parent helper, whether this be on a regular weekly basis or as and when you can give your time, we will be sending out a letter and form next week for you to complete. Following this, we will contact you to invite you in for a 'Safeguarding and Volunteers' introductory session and arrange for your DBS to be validated.



Fit and Fruity Friday

We have had a wonderful first Fit and Fruity Friday. The classes have been paired up across the school and have time each Friday to share in an activity. Today all the children practised their Fancy Footwork together. Next week, will also resume our whole school Head, Heart, Hands activities. Each Friday, your child will get to choose from a huge variety of activities run by our amazing team of staff. The activities are aimed to help support your child's physical and mental wellbeing.



Swimming

Swimming for Year 4 (Thursday) and Year 5 (Tuesday) will commence next week. Please ensure you do not book a hot school meal for your child on these days.



Second Hand Uniform Sale

We will be running a second hand uniform sale Monday to Thursday next week from 3pm to 3.30pm. There will be tables of uniform to choose from at the entrance to the staff carpark. We have all items of uniform in every size at the moment. If you are able to make a small donation to school funds this would be very much appreciated however we understand if this is not possible and invite you to take the uniform, we will just be pleased the uniform is being used.



Instrumental Lessons

Instrumental lessons will start in the week commencing 20th September. Further details will be sent out next week about days of lessons and payment via Wisepay.





FSK Fabulous Family Fireworks

FSK are pleased to advise that their Family Fireworks will be returning this year on Thursday 4th November. Due to COVID safety measures this event will be slightly different compared to previous years however it will still include great entertainers, fun stalls and a fabulous firework finale. All profit raised on the evening supports the school and children.



FSK are currently looking for local companies to sponsor the event. In return for £200 sponsorship, your company logo will be promoted on posters and banners, social media platforms and on the ticketing website. If you can support FSK in this, please contact Naomi (FSK Chair) on naomi_milne@hotmail.com.



Hot School Meals

Please remember to order your hot school meals by 11.59pm every Sunday to ensure your child has a hot school meal for the coming week. Year 5, please remember not to book a meal for your child whilst they are at Hooke Court.



Flu Vaccine

The school nursing team will be coming into on 22nd November to administer the flu vaccine.



Allergies

Please ensure no nuts or nut products are brought into school. We have a number of children with severe allergies and their health must not be compromised.



Contact Details

If any of your contact details have changed over the summer months, please complete a *Change of Details* form. These are available from the school office.

| | |
|--------------------------|---|
| 2021/2022 | |
| Autumn Term | Thursday 2 nd September 2021 to Friday 17 th December 2021 |
| Inset Day | Thursday 2 nd September & Friday 3 rd September 2021 |
| Autumn Half term | Monday 25 th October 2021 - Friday 29 th October 2021, 1.30pm |
| Inset Day | Monday 1 st November 2021 |
| Flu Vaccine | Monday 22 nd November 2021 |
| CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY | Monday 20 th December 2021 to Monday 3 rd January 2022 |
| Spring Term | Tuesday 4 th January 2022 – Friday 8 th April 2022, 1.30pm |
| Spring Half Term | Monday 21 st February 2022 - Friday 25 th February 2022 |
| Inset Day | Monday 28 th February 2022 |
| EASTER HOLIDAY | Monday 11 th April 2022 to Friday 22 nd April 2022 |
| Summer Term | Monday 25 th April 2022 – Thursday 21 st July 2022, , 1.30pm |
| Bank Holiday | Monday 2 nd May 2022 |
| Summer Half Term | Monday 30 th May 2022 - Friday 3 rd June 2022 |
| Inset Day | Monday 6 th June 2022 |