



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



Whole School Newsletter

27th February 2026

**Our worship
Theme is:
Bags of Hope**

Worship

We introduced our new worship theme this week: Bags of Hope. This is part of a Diocesan project that will focus on displaced people from a range of backgrounds, contexts and countries. Paddington started us off this term and the children loved watching and listening to a performance of Paddington singing "I've Arrived." We thought about what he had in his suitcase - not only were there marmalade sandwiches, but hope and expectation. The Bible verse, "I was a stranger and you welcomed me," Matthew 25:35 and the song "When I Needed a Neighbour" helped the children reflect on how people can fill these bags of hope with kindness to make someone feel welcomed.

Rev. Mike Powis led our worship on Wednesday and talked to the children about the resilience of our Winter Olympians and Jesus during Lent.

Bags of Hope Prayer Space

Our first prayer space activity session was held this week, led by a collaboration of some volunteers from St Nicholas' and St Katharine's Churches and several teaching assistants. Skylarks and Nightingales really enjoyed the activities which included making pipe cleaner people, peace garden flowers and fizzy liquids.

School Uniform

SCHOOL UNIFORM



Thank you again for the responses to recent parent surveys. With regard to the Active Uniform survey, please be assured that if we were to proceed with a new uniform, there would be further consultation and clear, generous timescales before being introduced and becoming compulsory. Therefore, please note that our uniform will remain the same next year and you should continue to ensure your child is wearing the expected uniform. Thank you for your support.



Parents' Evening

Thank you for joining us for parents' evening this week. The teachers enjoyed talking to you all about your children and are looking forward to seeing each child flourish further between now and the end of the year.

Music Concert

On Wednesday 11th February the whole school enjoyed a concert by visiting musicians the Bossa Definitivo Trio. Gracie in Y6 has written about it.

The performance was remarkable. Everybody was watching and joining in without taking their eyes off the musicians. They played guitar, saxophone, shakers and claves and also sang. All the instruments brought smiles to our faces and everyone thought it was amazing. The different pieces of music were very interesting and it was an extraordinary experience. Thank you to the three musicians who performed to us.





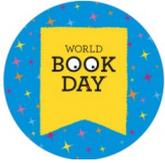
St. Katharine's C.E. (V.A.) Primary School

Whole School Newsletter

27th February 2026



World Book Week



Next week, we will be celebrating books as part of World Book Week! Each class will be participating in a range of activities to support reading for pleasure with a focus on book discussion within classes, across phases and around school. On **Thursday 5th March**, children are welcome to come to school with a decorated T-shirt showing a favourite book. This can range from a badge or book cover printed out all the way to a fully-decorated t-shirt if they wish. Children can also wear PE shorts/trousers and trainers on this day. Look out for the £1 book token coming home as there are some exciting options available this year including a book by Hannah Gold, a popular author amongst Years 4, 5 and 6 (and the teachers too!)

We are looking forward to seeing the children in their decorated t shirts.

Pavilion Dance Festival



We are incredibly proud of our talented group of dancers who represented our school at the Pavilion Dance Festival on Tuesday 10th February. The students demonstrated outstanding commitment, teamwork and creativity as they performed wonderfully alongside young dancers from other schools. Throughout the day, they embraced new styles, challenged themselves with fresh choreography and performed with confidence and enthusiasm on a professional stage. Their hard work in rehearsals truly paid off and they were fantastic role models for our school. Well done to all involved!

Eco Update

There is lots going on behind the scenes so we wanted to fill you in. Some actions include...



- Creating posters to remind everyone to turn taps off in year group areas.
- Putting eco warriors in charge of litter picking equipment and usage at beach schools
- Starting a milk bottle top collection (Molly in Year 4 is leading this)
- Researching and creating a waste worship for the whole school (Year 2 and 3)
- Talking with BCP to get food waste caddies for the classrooms
- Monitoring bins to check recycling bins are being used appropriately. (Bartek in Year 6 is checking this)
- Trialling reusable glue sticks in Year 2
- Writing a persuasive letter to Mrs St John to roll out refillable glue sticks across the school. (Rosemary in Year 5)

Additionally, if there are ever any eco links you think the school would benefit from getting involved with, please contact Mrs Lee-Stanton.

Eco Team

Healthy Habits



This half term in *Healthy Habits*, we will be exploring the importance of sleep. We will talk about why sleep is essential for our bodies and minds, what healthy sleep routines look like, and how good sleep helps us learn, grow, and feel our best each day. We would love for you to continue these conversations at home. Talk with your child about why sleep is important and how they can build healthy bedtime habits.



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



Whole School Newsletter

27th February 2026



FSK Update

Please find attached our Round-Up with latest news and upcoming events! Our Spring Disco will be on Thursday 19th March. Tickets are available here: <https://www.pta-events.co.uk/st-katharines>



Early Years: 2.30-3pm—All EY children will get to enjoy a “quieter” disco during their afternoon.
Years 1 and 2: 3.30-4.15pm—Children will be taken to the disco straight from their classroom at the end of the school day.

Years 3 and 4: 4.30-5.30pm

Years 5 and 6: 5.45-6.45pm

Tickets are £3 and unlimited soft drinks will be provided, plus all children will receive a sweet treat on exit.

Our trick of this half term is



Magic Circle

Use this trick when you need to feel brave or confident.

Think of things you are good at in school, with friends or in activities at home.

Use these strengths to form a circle with your finger and thumb when needed.



Please Remember...

We have seen a significant increase in the amount of children forgetting to bring the following items into school each day: lunches, PE kits, musical instruments, coats, etc. Please ensure your child has **everything** they need for the day when they arrive at school. Thank you



Nut Free School

We would like to remind parents and carers that we are a nut free school. We have a number of children who can have a very serious allergic reaction should they come into contact with nuts.



Hot School Meals

Please remember to order your hot school meal by 12.00pm (midday) the day before the meal



Free School Meals

If you think you may be eligible to apply for free school meals, please use the link below:

<https://www.bcpCouncil.gov.uk/schools-and-learning/support-with-education/free-school-meals>





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

Whole School Newsletter

27th February 2026



2025-2026	
<u>Spring Term</u>	Monday 5th January to Friday 27th March 2026
<u>Spring Half Term</u>	Monday 16th February - Friday 20th February 2026
<u>End of Term</u>	Friday 27th March 2026 at 1.30pm
<u>Summer Term</u>	Monday 13th April to Wednesday 22nd July 2026
<u>Year 3 Swimming</u>	Starts Tuesday 14th April until Tuesday 23rd June
<u>Summer Half Term</u>	Monday 25th May - Friday 29th May 2026
<u>End of Term</u>	Friday 17th July 2026 at 1.00pm
<u>Inset Days</u>	Monday 20th, Tuesday 21st and Wednesday 22nd July 2026

