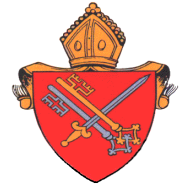




# St. Katharine's C.E. (V.A.) Primary School



Whole School Newsletter

Friday 8th May 2026

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

## Worship

Mr Jewell, led a lion-themed worship in which he shared the story of Daniel, showing how Daniel, a refugee, trusted God and was kept safe in the lions' den despite the danger around him. His message encouraged us all to trust in God and have hope in difficult times. Mrs Burton also shared *Lubna and Pebble*, the story of a young refugee, Lubna, who gave away her most treasured pebble to bring comfort and hope to another child, showing how small acts of kindness can make a big difference to others. This linked to the Bible story of the Ebenezer stone (1 Samuel 7:12), a reminder that God is always with us. We have also had two inspiring class worships: 4MS focused on World Earth Day, followed by 3CC's worship on centenarian, Sir David Attenborough. The children presented superbly and left us thinking about the importance of caring for God's world and how our small actions can bring hope for the future.

## Walk to School Challenge

Thank you for the positive feedback we have received regarding the walk to school challenge. The children are enjoying recording how they travel to school each day, and those who travel actively at least once a week for a month earn a special badge —well done to all the children who proudly received theirs in April! Travelling actively helps children feel happier, healthier and ready to learn, while also reducing congestion around the school gates. If you live further away, you can still take part by 'Park and Stride', parking a short distance from school and completing the journey actively. Over the summer term, we hope to get as many children and staff travelling actively to school as possible.

**WOW** the WALK  
TO SCHOOL  
challenge

## Please Help us to Support Year 6 during SATS week

To ensure we provide our year 6 pupils with a calm and punctual start to the day, the main school gates will be closed to all visitors next week between 9:00am and 11:15am, Monday 11<sup>th</sup> May to Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> May.

**SATS IN  
PROGRESS**

Visitors will not have direct access into school during this time, if your child arrives late to school during the gate closure, please call the school office who will come and meet your child and escort them into school.

Thank you for your support and understanding during this important time for our Year 6 pupils.

## Smartphone Parent Workshop

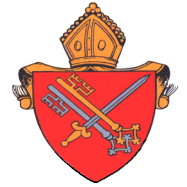
Thank you to everyone who attended the Parent Smartphone Workshops last week. It was lovely to see so many of you there, and we hope you found the sessions helpful and informative.

For those who were unable to attend, we have attached the workshop slides to the newsletter. If you have any questions or would like further support, please don't hesitate to get in touch with us.





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## Indoor Athletics County Final, Weymouth

Last Friday, children from the athletics team in years 5&6 took part in the Indoor Athletics County Final where all the best schools in Dorset competed. Amazingly, we came second. The team demonstrated teamwork resilience and brilliant collaboration. It was such a fun day we had a wonderful time representing our school team and competing against other schools too.

**Marnie, Daniel and James.**

## Mini London Marathon in schools 2026

On Tuesday the 28th of April we completed our Mini London Marathon challenge. This took place on the field and it was a beautiful summer day to come out and run. Everyone in year 4, 5 and 6 took part either to count or run the amazing 21 laps around our school field. The early-years also came out on the play trail to cheer us on and watch all the brave runners. In this activity we were showing our school values: grace, integrity and aspiration to our counters and the people around us. We were also happily joined by year 2, who ran a couple of laps each followed by some teachers taking part. The courageous runners ran 2 miles, which is an amazing goal for everyone who took part. We all had a wonderful time full of joy and laughter.

**Athelea and Maggie**

## Wildlife sanctuary

We are excited to be planning a small wildlife area within the school grounds. Our Year 2 children have produced some wonderful designs and are very keen to see their ideas become a reality. We would like to create spaces where wildlife can flourish, so if you have any rockery type stones at home that you would be willing to donate, please contact the school. We would also welcome any advice or support about what this space could look like; if you are able to help, please contact the school office to speak with Mrs Gadd or Miss Scarratt.

Additionally, we are collecting pine cones, small lengths of bamboo (60cm ish) and small logs to remake a DIY bug hotel using pallets. If you have any of these items. please bring them in and deliver to the courtyard or 2DS.

## Baby Lodge's Safe Arrival

We are thrilled to let you know that Mrs Lodge, one of our year one teachers, has welcomed a beautiful baby boy! We are sure you'll join us in sending congratulations and warm wishes to the Lodge family.

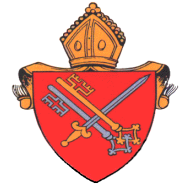
## Activity Club Price Increase – September 2026

Due to the increasing costs to the school of running our activity clubs we will be increasing the weekly charges, this will take effect from September 2026, **ALL** school led activity clubs will increase to £3.85. We will maintain the 15% discount to cover for unplanned cancellations. AFCB Football club will increase from £6.00 per session to £6.60 and Avonbourne Gymnastics club will increase from £6.00 per session to £6.50.





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## Afterschool and Breakfast Club Price Increase – September 2026

Due to the increasing costs of running our afterschool and breakfast clubs we will be increasing charges as follows from September 2026:

<b>Breakfast Club</b>	Long session - from £6.00 per session to £6.60 per session Short session - from £4.00 per session to £4.40 per session
<b>Afterschool Club</b>	Full session - from £12.50 per session to £13.00 per session Post activity club session – from £9.00 per session to £9.15 per session

## Instrumental Taster Sessions—Year 3 only

In year 4, the children have the opportunity to learn to play a musical instrument. To give children an idea of what to expect when learning an instrument, we offer children in Year 3 a one-off taster lesson on different instruments. To cover the cost of each lesson, there is a charge of £5.50 per session. Each musical instrument is available in the Arbor Shop. If you have not yet purchased instrumental taster sessions for your child in year 3, please do so by Sunday 10th May.



## FSK Update

We are thrilled to announce that the children have raised an incredible **£3,298!** A huge WELL DONE and thank you to everyone who participated in our Challenge 26. We have been completely blown away by the enthusiasm and creativity the children have shown in their challenges.



## School Nursing

The next NHS School Nursing Parent Drop in Session will take place on **Tuesday the 19<sup>th</sup> May** from 8:45am at school. NHS School Nursing offers private non-medical parental drop in advice sessions. These sessions are designed to support parents with common childhood concerns such as toileting, night time wetting, sleep, nutrition, growth concerns, and they can also signpost parents to other services.



If you would like to see the School Nurse, please contact the school office to book an appointment, appointments will last up to 15 minutes each.

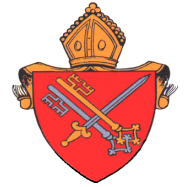
## Eat Them to Defeat Them

Continuing on the focus of healthy habits this year - we are participating in the nationwide EAT THEM TO DEFEAT THEM campaign. This award winning campaign encourages children to eat more vegetables and is proven to make eating vegetables more fun. Last year many parents said their child/children ate more vegetables. We have chosen to follow this on an alternative week as it fits in well with our events. Mission packs will be coming home on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> May. More information will be sent in an email too. 'Good chives only!' Eco Team





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## Arbor Reminders

Please be reminded to update your Arbor account with permitted adults to collect your child and consents for travelling home alone for Year 5 & 6.

## Absence during term time

Please note no holidays are authorised during term time, please remember to use the 'Leave of Absence during term time' form, which can be found on our website using the link: [Leave of absence during term time form](#).



## Reporting Absences

If your child is absent due to illness please ring the school office and leave a voicemail on the absence line at 01202 426663 or email office@skps.email before 8.45am. Please remember to call in or email on each day of their absence.



## Nut Free School

We would like to remind parents and carers that we are a nut free school. **Please also check ingredients on packaged food that you send into school with your child.** 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:

2025-2026	
<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>Year 3 &amp; Year 5 BSO Poole Lighthouse Trip</u>	Wednesday 20th May 2026—Return to school by lunchtime
<u>Year 6 Residential</u>	Wednesday 20th May—Friday 22nd May 2026
<u>Summer Half Term</u>	Monday 25th May - Friday 29th May 2026
<u>Great Big Dance Off Final</u>	Monday 15th June 2026
<u>Sports Day</u>	Monday 29th June 2026 - All day event
<u>End of Term</u>	Friday 17th July 2026 at 1.00pm—Inset Days: 20th, 21st and 22nd July 2026

