



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



Whole School Newsletter

12th March 2021



Worship

It was fabulous to have all the children in school this week to join together via Teams for whole school worship - we had a good wave at each other and each class shouted a greeting out to all the others!

We have been carrying on with our Lent theme of 'Make a Difference' that comes from our school vision. Last week we had fun with the Parable of the Lost Sheep and 'Ewe Matter' and this week we looked at the Parable of the Mustard Seed. "With faith the size of a mustard seed, nothing is impossible." (Matthew 17:20)

Return to School

What a great week we have had! Thank you for settling into the routines again so easily and for all the support you have given your children at home since Christmas.



Lent Arts Projects

The children all painted a heart earlier this week as their contribution to our reflective and hopeful collaborative piece of art that we are going to create - watch this space! The hearts are going to fit together to create an image of the earth and it will contain a yellow heart so that we can reflect on this past year - our slogan is 'Love Grows'. Next week, all children will begin to make contributions towards our dance creation.



National Day of Reflection - Tuesday 23rd March

We are going to take part in the National day of Reflection by wearing something yellow (or own bright clothes with a yellow badge, ribbon, sock etc) and by taking part in some classroom reflective and creative activities during the day. Our focus with the children will be on our experiences of the past year, what we have learned and hope for the future.



Mrs Allen, year 1 teaching assistant, is currently shielding at home and has written this about the day:

♥ My Dad passed away from Covid-19 on 27/4/20 in his care home. It was, and still is, very painful due to the circumstances that surround this pandemic we find ourselves in.

March 23rd is the anniversary of the first lockdown in the UK. Marie Curie have dedicated this day as a National Day of Reflection. It is not only to remember those taken by Covid - it is a day to reflect on our lives and how things may have changed for us over the past year. Many have lost loved ones in many different circumstances, families and friends have been estranged, jobs have been lost, home schooling, teachers having to be more brilliant than they already are! Everyone and everything has been affected in some way and we now need to start looking towards a brighter future for us all. I have managed my grief by promoting the Yellow Heart which has become recognised as a symbol to represent those who have died of Covid. I send out yellow heart pin badges and all proceeds go to a permanent physical memorial being built within St Paul's Cathedral. So, my reflection is that I grieve for my Dad, but am thankful for the support and friends I have made along the way and that there is new hope and, at last, a light at the end of a very long tunnel. ♥

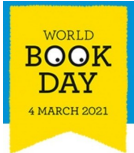


Mrs Rebecca Thompson



Mrs Thompson's time supporting us in her SENCO role has come to an end now. As you will remember, she started a doctorate in Education Psychology in September but she has continued to support us for one day a week. Staff and children are going to have a celebratory (distanced) morning with her to wish her well and say a huge thank you for the considerable contributions she made to St Katharine's over 17 years, on Friday 26th March. Thank you Mrs Thompson.

World Book Day



Thank you to all children and families for celebrating World Book Day this year with such enthusiasm and energy. It was a wonderful day and the teachers have really enjoyed seeing your child's creativity. We were astonished at how brilliant their potato characters were and there was much laughter as we read the continuing chapters of 'The Mystery of the Missing Teachers'. Well done everybody!

Parents evening



Parents evening will take place for all year groups on Monday 26th and Tuesday 27th April, once again the evening will take place via the School Cloud. Appointments will be available to book later this month, more details on how and when to book will be emailed to parents very soon.

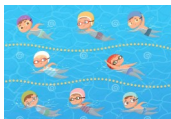
Athletics



A BIG well done to everyone who competed in our Whole School Intra Athletics competition last week. In preparation to returning to school, we hope that the daily activities prepared your child both physically and mentally, but more importantly they enjoyed themselves.

Each week in school, every child will have the opportunity to compete in physical challenges against other schools (Inter School) through an online platform called Koboca, where data is input, and year group league tables are created. This week, every child has competed in the 'Around the World Challenge'. Currently, Year 5/6 are 4th, Year 3/4 are 4th and Year 1/2 and Early Years are 1st. Well done! We look forward to next week's challenge 'Toe Taps'.

Swimming



Year 4 will be swimming after Easter for 12 weeks commencing Tuesday 20th April until the 13th July. Please remember not to order a hot school meal for your child on a Tuesday during this period.

FSK News



In July FSK's current Chair and Vice Chair will be stepping down from their roles so we are now looking for two new parent/carer volunteers who can lead FSK in planning activities and fundraising in support of the school and its children. The last couple of academic years haven't been the norm so full support will be given whilst the new committee members get into the swing of things. If you are interested in organising fundraising activities which will support the work of the school and develop its resources and environment, please express an interest with Naomi (current Chair) at naomi_milne@hotmail.com. FSK's next Zoom meeting will be held on Wednesday 21st April when new Chair & Vice Chair will be selected.



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.

As such we ask that you help us protect these children by ensuring that food including packed lunches, snacks, etc. that are sent into school **do not contain nuts**. If you have any queries or concerns regarding this please speak to the school office.



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.

Survival guide for parents dates

Please see attached details of the latest parent courses run by EDAS.

2020/ 2021	Dates for your Diaries
Spring Term	Monday 4th January to Thursday 1st April, 1.30pm
Swimming - Year 4	Tuesday 20th April - Thursday 13th July
Planetarium Visit - Year 4	Tuesday 20th April
Roman Play in a Day - Year 3	Tuesday 30th March
EASTER HOLIDAY	Friday 2nd April to Friday 16th April
Summer Term	Monday 19th April to Friday 23rd July, 1.30pm
Bank Holiday	Monday 3rd May
Summer Half Term	Monday 31st May to Friday 4th June
Inset Day	Monday 7th June
End of Summer Term	Friday 23rd July, 1.30pm
2021/2022	
Autumn Term	Thursday 2 nd September 2021 to Friday 17 th December 2021
Autumn Half term	Monday 25 th October 2021 - Friday 29 th October 2021, 1.30pm
Inset Day	Monday 1 st 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 – Friday 22 nd July 2022, , 1.30pm
Bank Holiday	Monday 2 nd May 2022
Summer Half Term	Monday 30th May 2022 - Friday 3rd June 2022
Inset Day	Monday 6 th June 2022