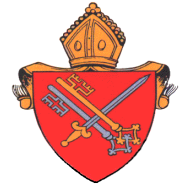




St. Katharine's C.E. (V.A.) Primary School



Whole School Newsletter

28.11.2025

Our worship

Theme is:

Be a Beacon of Light

Worship

We have been thinking about diversity; Mrs St John encouraged the children to create some finger print art to show that everyone has their own unique fingerprint. In worship, we thought about how Jesus was a beacon of light and a champion for diversity - he showed us how we should treat everyone with grace and integrity because everyone was created in God's image - "You are God's masterpiece." Ephesians 2:10. 5LM led a brilliant worship about Advent and reminded us of the importance of being a beacon of light at Christmas time.

Christmas cards



From Monday 8th December there will be a letter box in school, outside the year 6 classrooms, for children to post any Christmas cards they wish to send. However, like in previous years, we have been thinking about how we can reduce the HUGE amount of wasted paper and cardboard that we create each year - especially at Christmas time. We often send glitter-covered or shiny paper Christmas cards which are hard, or even impossible, to recycle, not to mention being quite expensive too! We are always thinking about how our actions can impact other people and the world around us. We are responsible for ensuring we consider all parts of the global community that we are a part of - this includes looking after the environment and reducing the amount of waste that we produce. So with this in mind, we don't want to stop you sending Christmas cards this year, but we would advise you to think before you do. Maybe instead you could write a card to a whole class rather than a card for every child; or you could make your own card out of a small sheet of paper that could then, much more easily, be recycled; or you could simply wish each other a Merry Christmas and be a beacon of light by being kind and positive to one another instead.

Dogs



Please can we politely remind you that dogs (with the exception of assistance dogs) are not permitted on the school grounds (including the car park, area around the boat, bike sheds and playgrounds). In addition, please could dogs also be kept away from the entrance gates to ensure that all children are able to walk into school safely. If other friends or relatives collect your children from school, we would be grateful if you could pass this message on to them too.

Parking around school



Please be mindful and considerate when parking around the school. We have had recent complaints of parents and carers blocking driveways of local residents. There is plenty of parking around surrounding roads, please arrive in time to park safely and without blocking roads, driveways and on double yellow lines. Thank you for your cooperation with this.

Reverse Advent calendar

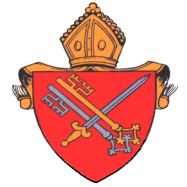


Our Reverse Advent Calendar collection starts on Monday! If you would like to contribute, we will be collecting the following items:

- **Monday 1st December** – Christmas chocolate, sweets or selection boxes
- **Tuesday 2nd December** – Tinned vegetables or tinned fruit
- **Wednesday 3rd December** – Christmas puddings or mince pies



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- **Thursday 4th December** – Tinned soup
- **Friday 5th December** – Hot chocolate, tea bags or instant coffee

Any donation, whether large or small, will be **greatly appreciated** and will make a real difference to the families who are supported by *Hope for Food*. Please can children take the items to their class each morning where they will then be collected by us.

Thank you in advance for your generosity. Aidan, James, Katie and Sienna



Year 5 Author talk

On Friday 21st November, Year 5 met (virtually) with Mitch Johnson to talk about his debut and our class read, Kick. At first, he talked about how he, when he was younger, wanted to be a footballer. He played for his school team, a local club just for fun! He then wanted to know if we liked football, and if so, did we have a pair of football boots. Some hands went down when he asked if we knew what brand they were from, then lots when he asked where they were from. Luckily, the blank faces brightened when he showed us the UK's top ten clothing suppliers. He talked to us about the inspiration behind the book - child labour and poverty around the world. Then we asked him a few questions about Kick and being an author. It was so fun! Written by Indigo and Harvey

Year 5 and 6 choir

The Y5&6 choir had the first of their numerous Christmas performances this week, taking part in the 78th Bournemouth Schools' Music Association Annual Carol Concert. They were part of a 230 strong choir from twelve primary school and supported by 120 pupils from secondary schools. It was a wonderful evening and has started to get us into the Christmas spirit. Well done to the choir who were a fantastic credit to the school with both their singing and their attitude.

They are next performing at the Tuckton Jingle and Mingle today, Friday 28th November at 6.00pm. See the attached leaflet for more information. Then they are leading the singing at the HENRA Carol Evening at St Nicholas Church on Tuesday 9th December, before being a part of our school carol service on 17th December. What a lot of carol singing!!!



FSK Christmas Raffle

Get into the festive spirit and be in with a chance of winning one of **over 120 incredible prizes**, including our legendary luxury hampers! Tickets can be bought here:

<https://raffall.com/fskfundraising>



Lunchtime assistant vacancy

We have a vacancy for a lunchtime assistant. The role is 1 hour and 15 minutes, Monday – Friday 12.20–1.35pm. If you are interested in the role please email the school at recruitment@skps.email



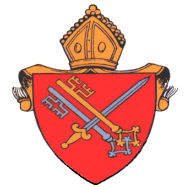
Reporting Absences

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.





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Hot School Meals

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



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.



Free Schools

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

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

Are you entitled?

<u>2025-2026</u>	
<u>Autumn Term</u>	Wednesday 3rd September to Friday 19th December 2025
<u>Year 1 & 2 Nativity</u>	Thursday 4th December & Friday 5th December 2025 2.15pm
<u>Year 3 & 4 Nativity</u>	Tuesday 9th December & Wednesday 10th December 2025 2.05pm
<u>Christmas Panto & Christmas Lunch</u>	Thursday 11th December 2025
<u>Early Years Nativity</u>	Tuesday 16th December 2025 2.30pm
<u>Year 5 & 6 Carol Service</u>	Wednesday 17th December 2025 6pm at St Katharine's Church
<u>End of Term</u>	Friday 19th December 2025 at 1.30pm
<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>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

