



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



Whole School Newsletter

17.10.2025

**Our worship
Theme is:
Be a Beacon of
Light**

Worship

We have been treated to two fabulous whole school worships from 6JH (Black History Month) and 6TW (World Values Day), both linking to our worship theme of 'Be a Beacon of Light'. We have also been thinking about being a Youth Sport Trust 'Beacon Well School' and how this reflects Matthew 5:14-16, "You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others."

The Nourish and Flourish Kitchen Update

As you know, we launched our new school kitchen in June, supported by Educatering. The staff are employed by the school and we manage and run the kitchen on a day to day basis. Educatering consult with us on menus, training and health and safety.

There have been a few teething problems that we have been working on and these have been echoed by feedback from the children this week. The main issue for the children seems to be consistency of pizza portion sizes. We have now changed the pizza option, based on their feedback, so that pizza will always be served with sweetcorn and wedges instead of salad and coleslaw.

The salad bar has a wide range of choices and we do encourage the children to use it and take as much as they want - the pasta is very popular and on a couple of occasions has run out, which it shouldn't, so we are carefully monitoring this. On a typical day, the salad bar will have most of the following: cucumber, peppers, pasta, lettuce, tomatoes, sweetcorn, carrot, potato salad, couscous. Our survey shows a real variety across different classes in their preferred items so we will maintain a range so that there will always be something that they like.

The team will take a closer look at the survey: the children shared their highlights, criticisms, suggestions and have given useful feedback (aside from asking for sushi and steak!). Tweaks will be made where possible and most importantly we will continue to focus on the portion sizes and encouraging topping up from the salad bar for all children.

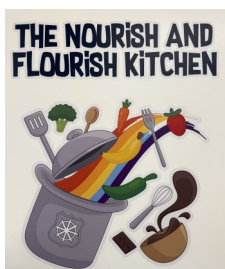
Please provide any further feedback using the online form which can be found here [Hot School Meal Feedback](#), please submit any feedback by Wednesday 22nd October at 12pm.

Thank You FSK

A huge thank you to FSK and all parents and families for supporting the school and the recent purchase and installation of our fabulous play equipment. It has been wonderful to see the children playing happily, being creative and collaborating. A particular highlight has been the pizza restaurant they create with the tree slices!

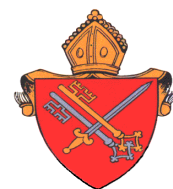
Site Manager

We are sad that Mr Powell is moving on today from St Katharine's but delighted that he has gained promotion to a post at Bishop of Winchester school and wish him well. Mr Vallins will be starting with us as our new Site Manager next week. Do say hello to him if you see him out on the road





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Open for Lunch at St Katharine's Church

On Monday 13th October, Lydia, Louie and Danny from year 6, attended the 'Open for Lunch' session at the St Katharine's Parish Centre. They served a lovely lunch to some very grateful members of the church community. The freshly made, hot soups on offer were leek & potato and carrot & coriander - they were delicious! However, the homemade desserts stole the show! The apple and blackberry crumble, the apple meringue and the pear tart were very tasty! The children are looking forward to helping at the next Open for Lunch which takes place in November.



FSK important reminders:

A Sky Full of Stars Early Bird tickets close TONIGHT.

Our Bag2school collection is on MONDAY.

Disco tickets close on TUESDAY.

And we welcome children to come to school in non uniform and dressed "disco ready" in exchange to a rainbow raffle donation on THURSDAY!

Tickets for our events are available here: <https://www.pta-events.co.uk/st-katharines/>



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

Messy Church

Messy Church event @ St Katharine's church centre (BH6 4AR) on Saturday 8th November 2 - 4pm. Fun, crafts and singing together with refreshments. This is a free event, joining with All Saints, Southbourne and our theme will be Remembrance.



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



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.



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.





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Free School Meals – is your child eligible?

If you think your child may be eligible for Free School Meals (this is in addition to the universal free school meals that all Key Stage 1 children receive), **please apply online at:** <https://www.bcpccouncil.gov.uk/Schools-and-learning/Free-school-meals/Free-school-meals.aspx> or email or post your completed form (you can obtain a copy of the form via our school website: <https://www.stkatharinesceprimary.co.uk/copy-of-school-meals>) to fsm@bcpccouncil.gov.uk; Free School Meals Team, Customer Services, BCP Council Civic Centre, Bournemouth, BH2 6DY. For more information on Free School Meals, such as eligibility and how the children and school benefit, please visit <https://www.stkatharinesceprimary.co.uk/copy-of-school-meals>. For other information, please contact the BCP at fsm@bcpccouncil.gov.uk or telephone: 01202 123222. If your child is eligible for 'free school meals' (this is in addition to the universal free school meals that all Key Stage 1 children receive) and you register them for this, we will receive extra funding called 'pupil premium'. We use this extra money to improve the educational provision and resources at the school and you would be helping us, if you are eligible and register.

2025-2026	
<u>Autumn Term</u>	Wednesday 3rd September to Friday 19th December 2025
<u>FSK Non-Uniform Day & School Disco</u>	Thursday 23rd October 2025
<u>Inset Day</u>	Friday 24th October 2025
<u>Autumn Half Term</u>	Monday 27th October - Friday 31st October 2025
<u>Parents & Carers Evening</u>	Tuesday 4th November & Thursday 6th November 2025
<u>FSK Fireworks</u>	Thursday 13th November 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

