



Worship



Mrs St. John has been helping us think about how we can fill our own buckets and the buckets of others. Using sand, we reflected on all the wonderful experiences we can enjoy through our SEASIDE curriculum. We also overfilled a bucket with water to show how God's blessings can overflow. Linking this to John 10:10, *"I have come in order that you might have life, life in all its fullness,"* we thought about how our acts of kindness, encouragement and friendship can flow out of us to others.

Mr Jewell, accompanied by his toy chip-stealing seagull, visited us to lead a whole-school worship. As he talked about the mischievous seagulls that swoop in to pinch chips and picnic food at the beach, their behaviour reminded him of the birds in Noah's Ark, particularly the raven and the dove. Through their story, we reflected on how the end of the flood marked a fresh start, full of hope and new opportunities, and Mr Jewell reminded us that, just as Noah and his family began again, we can fill our own buckets and the buckets of others through kindness, respect and helpful actions as we start the new school year.

Head, Heart, Hands



This week, we were excited to restart our whole-school Head, Heart, Hands clubs! Children from Year 1 to Year 6 were able to choose from a wide range of clubs including den building, musical theatre singing, yoga, gymnastics, football, mindfulness, wellbeing walks and many more. These special sessions give children and staff the chance to discover new interests, learn new skills, make new friends and find their thing, while nurturing a strong sense of belonging through opportunities to learn, play and grow together. We can't wait to see all the confidence, creativity and teamwork that unfolds over the coming weeks.

Superstars



Mr Burke has restarted the Superstars sessions, which are open to any child who is a young carer. The 30 minute sessions provide an opportunity for young carers to spend time with others in a similar situation, have fun, relax and feel valued. Taking place during the school day, children can enjoy activities such as archery, handball and team-building challenges. If you would like to discuss whether your child may be a young carer, please contact Mrs Burton via the school office or visit the MYTIME Young Carers website: <https://www.mytimeyoungcarers.org/>

Hengistbury Head Week

Next week, we are excited to be celebrating Hengistbury Head Week across the school. Through a range of engaging geography, history and science activities, children will explore the importance of our unique local environment and learn more about the history and natural features of Hengistbury Head. Each year group will be visiting the area to further appreciate its rich history, diverse habitats and stunning coastal landscape, helping to bring their classroom learning to life through first-hand experiences. The week will conclude with a celebration of the children's learning and achievements.



Healthy Habits

This half term in Healthy Habits, we will be focusing on mental health and wellbeing. Children will be learning to understand and talk about their emotions, explore the 5 Ways to Wellbeing, identify who they can speak to when they need help, and discover simple tools and strategies to help look after their mental wellbeing.

We would love for you to continue these conversations at home. Talking with your child about their feelings, encouraging positive wellbeing activities, and reminding them who they can speak to when they need help will help reinforce these important messages and support their emotional wellbeing.



Harvest Festival

On Wednesday 30th September, some children will be leading our Harvest worship in school. As part of our celebration, we would like to invite the children to contribute towards a Harvest collection, which will be donated to the local food bank.

If you would like to contribute an item, please bring it in to school on Wednesday, Thursday or Friday next week. Items could include any of the following: tinned food, cereal, pasta, rice, long-life milk/juice. **NO FRESH FOOD.**



Coats

As the weather becomes more autumnal and showers become more frequent, please ensure your child has a waterproof coat in school every day. We want children to continue enjoying outdoor play and making the most of time outside whenever possible.



FSK - Annual General Meeting

Our AGM will be held at the school on Friday 2nd October at 9am. Find out how FSK funds have been spent last year and join discussions on fundraising planning for the forthcoming academic year and what we are fundraising for. We will also be electing the FSK committee members. Everyone is warmly welcome, so please do come along and enjoy a cuppa with us!

Nursing Parent Drop In Session

We are delighted to let you know that NHS School Nursing Parent Drop in Session will take place on Wednesday 7th October 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.



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

Whole School Newsletter

Friday 18th September 2026



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

As you may be aware, there are some important changes to Free School Meal (FSM) eligibility that will come into effect from September 2026. The Government has announced that, from the start of the 2026/27 academic year, all children from households receiving Universal Credit will be entitled to Free School Meals. This means that many more families will now be eligible for support.

BCP Council has advised that all families must submit a new Free School Meals application, including those whose children already receive Free School Meals.

If you currently receive Free School Meals, or if your household receives Universal Credit, please complete an application as soon as possible using the link below:

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

We strongly encourage families to apply before the end of the summer term to ensure applications can be processed ahead of September.

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.



St. Katharine's C.E. (V.A.) Primary School
Whole School Newsletter **Friday 18th September 2026**



Autumn Term	<i>Tuesday 1st September to Friday 18th December 2026 at 1.30pm</i>
Inset Day	<i>Tuesday 1st September 2026</i>
Inset Day	<i>Friday 23rd October 2026</i>
Parents Evenings	<i>Tuesday 20th October 2026 – 3.30pm to 7.00pm Wednesday 21st October 2026 – 3.30pm to 6.00pm</i>
Autumn Half Term	<i>Monday 26th October - Friday 30th October 2026</i>
Spring Term	<i>Monday 4th January to Thursday 25th March 2027 at 1.30pm</i>
Spring Half Term	<i>Monday 15th February - Friday 19th February 2027</i>
Summer Term	<i>Monday 12th April to Wednesday 21st July 2027 at 1.00pm</i>
Summer Half Term	<i>Monday 31st May - Friday 4th June 2027</i>
Bank Holiday	<i>Monday 3rd May 2027</i>
Inset Day	<i>19th, 20th and 21st July 2027</i>