



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



Whole School Newsletter

Friday 10th July 2026



Worship

Year 6 attended their special day at Christchurch Priory with eight other Church of England schools last week. Bishop Rhiannon attended and blessed the Paddington soft toys and backpacks containing messages for refugees. The children also took part in creative activities including dance, drumming and friendship bracelet making. We have also had super child-led worships to kick off our Wild and Active week.

Staff News

We say goodbye to Mr Pepper, who is off on his travels, and Miss Smith, who is embarking on a new adventure, and thank them for all their fantastic contributions to St Katharine's.

We also say goodbye to Mrs Cashion, who produced the amazing artwork in our Forever Flourishing book, and wish her well.

Mr Price will be joining year 4 in September, after a number of years teaching overseas, and we are excited to welcome him to our school.

Reports

Reports will be sent out to you on Monday and children will bring home an envelope containing their own comment. If you want to discuss anything with the teacher, do let them know.

End of Term Arrangements

Wednesday: The whole school will be walking to St Katharine's Church in the morning to watch our fabulous Year 6 Leavers' Service.

Thursday: please send a tote bag or carrier bag in for your child to bring home their books at the end of the day. Some books will be passed on to the next year group.

Friday: Children in Early Years to Year 5 will be dismissed at 1:00pm. At 1:15pm, parents and carers of Year 6 children will be invited into the front playground to form the traditional arch that the Year 6 children will run through as they leave St Katharine's for the final time.

Start of year meetings

Please pop the following dates into your calendars and diaries - these will be introductory meetings with the year teams, straight after school. Slides will be emailed out afterwards if you are unable to make it.

Thursday 3rd September: year 6
Monday 7th September: year 4
Wednesday 9th September: year 1

Friday 4th September: year 5
Tuesday 8th September: year 3
Thursday 10th September: year 2

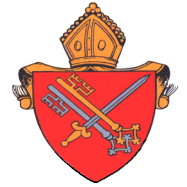


School Reports





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Uniform

Thank you for your support with uniform expectations this year. The children have looked brilliant. May we remind you of a few important aspects of our policy: hair braids, tramlines, friendship bracelets and earrings must all be removed for school

Mobile Phone Policy

As shared previously, from September, if you need/want your child to bring a phone with them, it must be a non-smartphone (brick phone) and be handed to their teacher on arrival.

WOW Travel Challenge Success!

A huge thank you to all our families for supporting active travel to school. We are delighted to share that our school came 2nd out of all schools in BCP in June's WOW Top Ten Challenge! This fantastic achievement reflects the commitment of our children and families to walking, wheeling and scooting to school whenever possible. Children who travel actively to school at least once a week, every week of the month, earn a WOW Strider badge, so there are plenty of opportunities to get involved. We will continue logging journeys in the new school year, so please keep up the brilliant effort – even when the colder, wetter weather inevitably returns. Well done everyone!



Summer Spotlight Success

Wednesday evening's Summer Spotlight performance was a great success and a wonderful celebration of the creative and performing arts at St Katharine's. Children from Upper Key Stage 2 impressed the audience with a varied programme of songs and dances, featuring everything from musical theatre favourites and lyrical contemporary pieces to the National Final Great Big Dance Off routine and a high-energy, parkour performance from year 5 and 6 boys. Families also enjoyed an immersive art exhibition showcasing a range of impressive 2D and 3D artwork created in lessons and after-school clubs. It was a fantastic way to end the term and celebrate the talent, hard work and creativity of the children. Thank you to FSK for serving some much needed cold drinks and ice creams too!



FSK News

Thank you!

Wow, what a fantastic year it's been! We'd like to say a huge thank you to all of our wonderful parents/carers, volunteers and supporters. Your generosity, enthusiasm and kind support have made everything we've achieved this year possible!



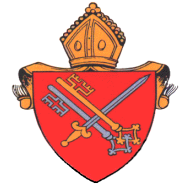
We hope your children have loved all the exciting events we've organised and that they've made lots of happy memories with their friends.

We're also delighted that the children have been able to enjoy the various fantastic new outdoor play spaces funded by FSK this year. And the exciting news is... we've got even more wonderful enhancements to the outdoor areas planned for the new school year!





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We hope the children had an incredible time at our Colour Run today, ending the school year with a spectacular explosion of fun, laughter and every colour of the rainbow!



Lost Property

Next week is the final opportunity to look through our lost property container, weather permitting, the lost property will be available outside for parents to look through. At the end of term any remaining items will be discarded.



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.



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:

Breakfast Club	Long session - from £6.00 per session to £6.60 per session
	Short session - from £4.00 per session to £4.40 per session
Afterschool Club	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

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

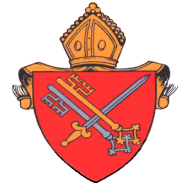




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Free School Meals

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.



Are you entitled?

2025-2026	
Summer Term	Monday 13th April to Wednesday 22nd July 2026
Southbourne on Sea Parish Summer Fair, St Nicholas Church	Saturday 11th July 2026
Y6 Leavers Service all day rehearsal	Tuesday 14th July 2026
Y6 Leavers Service	Whole School—Wednesday 15th July (am) Y6 Parents/Carers— Wednesday 15th July (2pm)
End of Term	Friday 17th July 2026 at 1.00pm—Inset Days: 20th, 21st and 22nd July 2026
2026-2027	
Autumn Term	Tuesday 1st September to Friday 18th December 2026 at 1.30pm
Inset Day	Tuesday 1st September 2026
Inset Day	Friday 23rd October 2026
Autumn Half Term	Monday 26th October - Friday 30th October 2026
Spring Term	Monday 4th January to Thursday 25th March 2027 at 1.30pm
Spring Half Term	Monday 15th February - Friday 19th February 2027
Summer Term	Monday 12th April to Wednesday 21st July 2027 at 1.00pm
Summer Half Term	Monday 31st May - Friday 4th June 2027
Bank Holiday	Monday 3rd May 2027
Inset Day	19th, 20th and 21st July 2027





**SWIM
SAFE**

COME AND JOIN US

**FREE OUTDOOR SWIMMING AND WATER SAFETY
SESSIONS THIS SUMMER AT WATERSIDE LOCATIONS
ACROSS THE UK, FOR 7-14 YEAR OLDS.**

DURLEY CHINE BEACH, BOURNEMOUTH

Mon 10th August to Friday 14th August 2026

Daily sessions at 9.30am or 10.30am

Book your session in advance
at swimsafe.org.uk or on the day.




Lifeboats

 **Swim
England**