



ST KATHARINE'S  
C of E  
PRIMARY SCHOOL

*Friendship, Effort, Respect,  
& Honesty*

Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December 2025  
NEWSLETTER No: 7

*Our Value This Term Is...*

*Hope*



*Dear Parents,*

As you will be well aware we have pretty much squeezed our school Christmas into the last week of term, bar a couple of festive moments last week. We've enjoyed the brilliant Nativity for Hazel and Oak Class, and a wonderful Carol Service in church this morning for Key Stage 2. We've had parties and a visit from Father Christmas (although no one saw him?) and worn our Christmas Jumpers in support of Save the Children. Many of us have definitely been running on fumes. It is an incredibly busy time of year. I know that the idea that we are now 'on holiday' will be met with a wry smile from many of you. There are still presents to wrap, supermarkets to contend with, traffic jams to sit in or parking spaces to find! I know for the staff team, that they do not often begin to think about their own Christmas until Christmas in school is put to bed. I hope, whatever your plans over the coming fortnight, that you have a few afternoons on the sofa, in front of a good film, scheduled in.

Please stay safe and well over the Christmas period, we look forward to welcoming you all back to school on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> January, refreshed and ready to go again!

*Ms Jones*

Principal

*'From little acorns, great oaks grow'*



## In Remembrance...



It will not have passed you by that this time of year has a sad significance to it. Mrs Crewe was still in school right up until the final week of term in December 2024. She was just coming to terms with her diagnosis and hoping to start her treatment in the new year. Sadly, Terri died in the early hours of 27<sup>th</sup> December, leaving everyone, who knew and loved her, reeling. You will remember receiving this sad news during the Christmas break. We remain in contact with Mrs Crewe's family and have sent them our love and best wishes at what will be a very difficult Christmas for them. Please join us in remembering Terri fondly, smiling at her turning circle antics and sharing your memories of her. We have recently planted an array of bulbs underneath the tree on the turning circle. When the days get longer and the Spring begins, we can all enjoy them together. They will provide a blast of Spring colour. Mrs Crewe would whole heartedly approve.

## Thank You's

**Thank you**, on behalf of all the staff, for the Christmas wishes, cards and incredibly generous gifts and vouchers that have been given by our parent community. The staff room has been a very happy place this week with chocolate and biscuits a plenty – a very happy team!

**A huge thank you** to all the parents who kindly gave their time to help with the putting up and taking down of the stage for the nativity performance! Your support made such a difference and is truly appreciated.

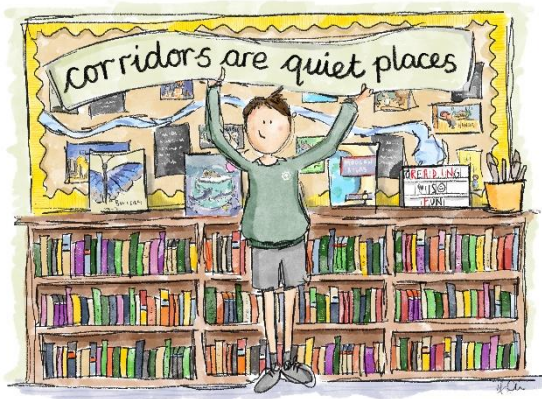
**Thank you** to Mr Homer for visiting Oak Class and leading a local walk to learn about animals. The children gained so much from the experience and thoroughly enjoyed it. They enjoyed learning about cows and searching for worms, discovering where they live and why they are important for the soil. It was a fun hands-on experience that sparked lots of curiosity and conversation.

**Thank you** to all of the parents that baked iced cakes for our celebration of St Katharine's Day – they were delicious!

**Thank you** to all our regular volunteers who are in school every week supporting our learners. If you would be interested in volunteering in the new year please do get in touch. Even the smallest of commitments can

make a real difference. If you have a bit of time to spare and would like to get involved, please let us know.

**Thank you to Leeanda Parkinson** who has created a wonderful piece of artwork that we are displaying in our corridors encouraging the children to remember that these are quiet places. It is truly beautiful. Take a look...



### Attendance Update

**Current whole school attendance data: 96.5%**

**Our end of year attendance target is: 97%**

We have had a pretty torrid time with illness in school during December. I know that some children (and their adults) have been very unwell. We are looking forward to a healthy new year for all of us.

### Celebration Worship Dates – Terms 3 and 4

#### Celebration Worship

#### Term 3 & 4

Friday Date	What?
9 <sup>th</sup> January	No Celebration Worship
16 <sup>th</sup> January	Celebration Worship
23 <sup>rd</sup> January	Celebration Worship
30 <sup>th</sup> January	Celebration Worship
6 <sup>th</sup> February	No Celebration Worship
13 <sup>th</sup> February	Celebration Worship
27 <sup>th</sup> February	No Celebration Worship
6 <sup>th</sup> March	No Celebration Worship – World Day of Prayer in Church
13 <sup>th</sup> March	Sycamore Class Sharing
20 <sup>th</sup> March	No Celebration Worship- sharing our learning afternoon
27 <sup>th</sup> March	No Celebration Worship – Early Close

### Morning Drop Off

On Thursday mornings we are very lucky to have Choir available for the children who wish to take part. This starts at 8.30am. Please can we remind parents of non-choir children to not leave any children unsupervised at the school gate. If your child does not do choir, please wait for a staff member in a high-viz jacket on the turning circle before leaving your child. Many thanks.

### Farmer Time

A direct result of our governor meeting with parents in Term 1 was that Jeff Homer, of Warren Farm, arranged to come and talk with me about how we could connect more with the farm and use this incredible resource more with our children. To get us started we have planned a series of 'Farmer Time Assemblies' across the remainder of the school year. Jeff will come in to school and lead an assembly to update the children with what is going on at the farm at a given moment in the calendar. We hope to connect this with the change of seasons. In addition to this, we are exploring ways of ensuring that children have visits to the farm, connected to our 'biology' themed science units of work that children will encounter during their journey through school. Blocks of learning such as 'Living Things and Habitats' or 'Plants and Living Things' are great opportunities to visit the farm and connect our learning to 'real life' science.

### Term Dates 2026/27

Please find attached, along with this newsletter, the term dates for the academic year 2026-27, recently approved by the board of directors of our academy trust. You will note that we have added 3 TD days to the half term break in October in addition to the 2 TD days as the very start of the school year (as we did this year). Then there is one further TD day at the end of the Christmas holiday period. We hope that by having these dates well in advance you are able to plan ahead for your own holidays from work.

### Message on behalf of the PTA

A big thank you to everyone who baked and supported Friday's cake sale, it was a great success. We raised a fantastic £268, which is a brilliant result. It was lovely to get into the festive spirit after the dress rehearsal, and we truly appreciate the effort from all involved.

The Christmas raffle was drawn yesterday at the end of the class Christmas parties. Congratulations to everyone who had a winning ticket and thank you to everyone for supporting us by buying them.

As we come to the end of the year, we would like to say a heartfelt thank you for all your support throughout 2025. We would also like to extend our appreciation to the previous PTA team for their hard work and dedication.

We're looking forward to more fun, fundraising, and community events in 2026!

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year from the PTA



## Wreath Making

Thank you to everyone who came and supported Tamsyn and Pip's Wreath Making Workshops last Week. We have raised just over £800 for the PTA! Thank you all and Merry Christmas 🎄



## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

January	
Monday 5 <sup>th</sup>	First Day of Term 3
Tuesday 6 <sup>th</sup>	Sycamore Class Table Tennis sessions PM
Tuesday 13 <sup>th</sup>	Oak Class visit to Sevington Victorian School
Thursday 15 <sup>th</sup>	Deadline for primary school applications
Tuesday 20 <sup>th</sup>	Farmer Time Assembly
Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Mobile Library visiting
Tuesday 27 <sup>th</sup>	Dentist visiting Hazel Class
February	
Friday 6 <sup>th</sup>	Chestnut Class visit to Bristol Aquarium
Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup>	Year 1/2 multi-skills sport event at Burbage Primary School
Friday 13 <sup>th</sup>	Last Day of Term 3
Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup>	First day of Term 4
	Chestnut Class Table Tennis sessions PM
Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup>	Lego League Competition Bristol (Lego Club attendees only)
Friday 27 <sup>th</sup>	KS2 SATs Information Session for parents at 2.45pm

Our aim is that we give you advance warning and enable you to plan well ahead for some of the main events in the year. As events come into the school diary they will be added to the dates sections of the Newsletter and to Key Dates Planners V2 and V3 which are resent at the beginning of Terms 3 and 5.

### Remaining TD Days 2025/26

20<sup>th</sup> April 2026

### Please Note

We will close at 1:15pm on the following end of term dates:

- **Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March**
- **Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> July**

Children will be ready to be collected from the playground at 1:15pm. *On these days we ask that children do not stay to play so that end of term clear-up and organisation can be planned to include any grounds maintenance that might be needed.*

Thank you

Please also refer to the **Key Dates Planner V1**, that includes all the dates that we know of for the academic year 2025/26 (at this point).

Other things you might want to know...



**MERRY  
CHRISTMAS  
AND  
Thank You**

We would like to wish all the Parents, students, and schools a **MERRY CHRISTMAS** and a **HAPPY NEW YEAR!** Thank you for your continued support and for being part of the **.EASport coaching** family.

**.EASport coaching**