



ST KATHARINE'S
C of E
PRIMARY SCHOOL

*Friendship, Effort, Respect,
& Honesty*

Friday 9th October 2026

NEWSLETTER No: 3

Our Value This Term Is...

Courage



Dear Parents,

I have seen a look of shock spread across a few faces this week, staff and parents alike, when they realise that next week is the final week of Term 1, for the children. Once again, time has literally flown!

It was lovely to see so many of you in church on Wednesday to celebrate Harvest Festival with us. It is always a proud moment when we share our hard work and effort with you all. The children sang beautifully, words were read with clarity and confidence and behaviour was impeccable. Thank you to everyone who took their time to share some lovely comments with us, after the service.

Last week we were visited by Geoff Homer for the 1st of our Farmer Time sessions this year. As always, the children were fascinated. We are really grateful to Geoff for this generous offer of time and the cross-curricular learning that this brings. We have more sessions planned across the year including time for children to visit the farm to see things first hand – there are more trailer rides in the diary!

This term is always a whirlwind as we move from the newness of September to the settled and the routine that comes with Term 2.

We hope that you all manage to draw breath when half term arrives and enjoy some (hopefully) gentle autumn weather. We will look forward to doing it all again in Term 2.

Ms Jones

Principal

'From little acorns, great oaks grow'



Open Morning

Next week is our Open Morning and opportunity for people to see the school at work. Please continue to spread the word and please re-share the poster on the notice board below on any social media sites that you use regularly.

Thank you

Governors Community Evening – Wednesday 11th November @ 7pm - Save the Date

Please try to come along to this event, meet other parents, find out a bit more about how school is run, what it means to be part of an Academy Trust and to meet members of our staff team, our governors and members of our PTA. **Last year was a great success and a lovely opportunity for members of our community to come together.**

Attendance Update

Current whole school attendance data: 96.7%

Our end of year attendance target is: 97%

Typically, at this point in the school year there are a number of seasonal germs going around. Thank you for supporting your child/ren to enable us to achieve high attendance rates. Processes around illness are covered below to help guide you with your decision making.

Reminder about sickness and 48-hour rule

What to do when your child is unwell - *a refresh*

If your child is unwell, we ask that you call the school office on the first day of the illness to explain your child's absence. If you know that the absence is likely to be for a couple of days (48 hours for a sickness/diarrhoea bug, 24 hours after a temperature spike) please let us know during the course of this telephone call /message.

If you are not certain when your child is returning to school, we would expect you to keep us updated on a daily basis, before the beginning of each school day. This can be done by leaving an answerphone message or by sending an email. When leaving a message on the school answerphone or sending an email, detailing an absence, please give a brief description of the illness. If we do not receive notification about your child's absence, we will call you to enquire as to why your child

is not in school. This is in line with recommended safeguarding procedures.

Medical or other appointments in school time should be avoided if at all possible but if not, a Leave of Absence form must be obtained from the school office or the website. Advance notice is required for medical or dental appointments, unless it's an emergency appointment and must be supported by providing the school with sight of, or a copy of, the appointment letter/email. A half day is considered sufficient for most appointments.

Thank you for your help with this.

This resource from the NHS is helpful when trying to decide if your child should or shouldn't come to school:

[Is my child too ill for school? - NHS](#)

Leave of Absence

If you are requesting that your child have time away from school for reasons not related to illness, please request a Leave of Absence form from the school office or access it via the website. In accordance with our Attendance Policy, a request for a leave of absence should be submitted as soon as it is anticipated; and wherever possible, at least 4 weeks before the absence.

School Council Elections – Friday 6th November

We will be talking to children next week about our plans for school council this year. Children will need to write or prepare their manifestos **over the half term** in readiness to share those with their class in the first week of Term 2. Please support your children to plan their manifestos if they would like to be considered. **This is something that we ask them to do at home.** They need to then present to their class. Children can use things to support them such as PowerPoint a poster or props.

They need to answer 3 questions:

- ★ Why I want to be a School Councillor?
- ★ Why I would make a good School Councillor and why you should vote for me?
- ★ What I might try to achieve if I was elected?

Individual Photographs

We have the school photographer coming in on the morning of Tuesday 10th November to take individual photographs of the children. Please remember to send your child/ren in to school looking particularly smart that day. If you have younger siblings which you would like included in a photograph with your St Katharine's child/ren please bring them in with you at drop off on the morning and get your photograph taken at that point.

Lost Property

Please remember to keep an eye on the lost property basket to see if anything belongs to you. There is currently a small mountain in the basket! At current count, amongst other things we have 21 jumpers, 10

cardigans, 4 fleeces, 3 hoodies, 3 t-shirts, 3 drinking bottles, 6 pairs of gloves plus other bits including tupperware, all unnamed.

On the final few days of term all lost property will be put on a table near the school gate at the end of each day for parents to look through. All remaining lost property at the end of that week will be put into the donation station or given to local charity shops.

Morning Drop Off

Please can we remind parents to not leave any children unsupervised at the school gate. Please wait for a staff member in a high-viz jacket on the turning circle before leaving your child. Many thanks.

Free Community Sports Programmes

In case you are interested, Wiltshire Council are offering free community sports programmes for young people across Wiltshire.

The sessions provide young people with free, accessible opportunities to be active, build confidence, develop new skills, and make friends in a safe and supportive environment. Please see further details below:

Doorstep Sports Clubs (Ages 8 to 16)

The free weekly Doorstep Sports Clubs are available at the following locations:

- Longfield Community Hall, Trowbridge
Tuesdays, 5:00pm to 6:00pm (ages 8 to 16)
- Pinewood Green, Bemerton Heath, Salisbury
Tuesdays, 5:30pm to 7:00pm (ages 7 to 12)
- Friary Community Centre, Salisbury
Tuesdays, 5:00pm to 6:00pm (ages 10+)
- Studley Green Community Centre, Trowbridge
Wednesdays, 5:30pm to 7:00pm (ages 8 to 16)
- Ladyfield Church Sports Centre, Chippenham
Fridays, 5:00pm to 6:30pm (ages 8 to 16)

Register for Doorstep Sports Clubs:

<https://surveys.wiltshire.gov.uk/Interview/ed36e30d-028a-49da-ad80-0989ac0849b0>

Us Girls (Ages 11-16)

Us Girls provides free, inclusive opportunities for girls aged 11-16 to get active, build confidence and make new friends in a supportive environment. Sessions can include a range of sports and physical activities shaped by the interests of participants. The current venue is:

- The Adventure Centre, Wiltshire Youth Canoe Club, King George V Park, Lowbourn, Melksham, SN12 7ED

Register for Us Girls, Melksham:

<https://surveys.wiltshire.gov.uk/s/8cea41>

All information regarding the current sessions can be found on the website  [Activities for young people - Wiltshire Council](#)

If you have any questions about either programme, please contact communitysport@wiltshire.gov.uk

Secondary School Applications

The national deadline date for applying for secondary school places is 31 October 2026.

It is essential that Year 6 parents submit an application on time to ensure the best possible chance of securing a place at a preferred school.

Applications need to be in by midnight on 31 October 2026. Applications can be submitted using the Wiltshire Council Parent Portal using [this link](#).

Message on behalf of the PTA

Dear Parents and Carers,

A huge thank you to everyone who baked for our cake sale last week. It was a lovely way to end the week in the sunshine, and we raised a fantastic £150! Thank you to everyone who baked, bought and supported us.

Thank you also to everyone who attended our PTA AGM this week. It was fantastic to see some new faces and to share lots of ideas for ways we can continue to support our school and make it even better.

Pumpkin Fest, Friday 16th October

Our Pumpkin Fest is coming up next Friday! It's a great way to finish the half term and kick-start the holidays, with treats, games and plenty of fun for everyone to enjoy straight after school. We hope to see lots of you there!

Fireworks Night

Tickets for our school Fireworks Night will be going on sale very soon. As always, we'll also be asking for volunteers. If you can spare just 30 minutes to help with setting up or on the night itself, it would be hugely appreciated. These events simply wouldn't be possible without your help.

Every Mile Matters!

Go Julie! Lastly, as we're sure many of you are aware, Julie is now just four weeks away from her incredible trek across the Sahara for Every Mile Matters! We'll all be cheering her on, and if you're able to sponsor her, every penny raised will go towards supporting St Katharine's. The link to sponsor Julie is:

<https://gvwhl.com/KJY11>

Your PTA team

Message on behalf of the Fun Run Team

If anyone wishes to be involved in the planning & preparations, please do not hesitate to get in touch, any support would be most welcomed & much appreciated. You can get in touch via: run2026@savernake10k.co.uk
Many thanks.

Anna Speed & Tom Swift

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

October	
Tuesday 13 th	Music for Miniatures – Bubble Bach
	Year 5/6 Dodgeball Event at St. Katharine's (small group)
Wednesday 14 th	Year 5/6 Football Festival at St John's, Marlborough
Thursday 15 th	Open morning prospective parents 2027/28 (9.30am-11.30am)
Friday 16 th	Last day of Term 1 for children
	School Council elections
	PTA Pumpkinfest event 3.15pm
Monday 19 th – Wednesday 21 st	TD Days 3,4 and 5 (children not in school)
Friday 30 th	Mobile Library visiting
Saturday 31 st	Deadline for secondary school applications
November	
Monday 2 nd	First Day of Term 2
Thursday 5 th	Year 5/6 Netball Festival Marlborough College
Friday 6 th	Chestnut Class visit to Roman Baths
Sunday 8 th	St Katharine's Church Remembrance Service
Tuesday 10 th	Individual Photographs
	Final KAPLA after school session Oak Class
Wednesday 11 th	Remembrance Collective Worship led by KS2 in church – 9.30am - parents welcome (only KS2 children attending)

	Happy Confident Me parent workshop 3.30pm – 4.30pm
	Governors Community Evening – 7pm
Friday 13 th	Sycamore Class trip to Imperial War Museum, London
Monday 16 th	Odd Socks Day – as part of Anti-Bullying week
Tuesday 17 th	Flu vaccinations - Reception to Year 6
Thursday 19 th	Swindon Voice Festival – 7.30pm Choir
Friday 20 th	Children in Need
	Sharing our Learning afternoon - parents invited in from 2.30pm until 3.15pm (prior to Parents Evening 1)
	Bonfire Night PTA
Tuesday 24 th	Parents Evening 1 - All classes 3:30–7:00pm
	Year 3/4 Handball Festival (small group)
Wednesday 25 th	St Katharine's Day Service in Church 9:30am
	Sycamore Class Tree planting at Ramsbury Manor
Thursday 26 th	Parents Evening 1 – Oak, Chestnut and Sycamore classes 3:30–5:30pm
December	
Wednesday 9 th	Christmas Lunch
Thursday 10 th	Reception and KS1 Nativity dress rehearsal 10.45am – 12.15pm - parents and grandparents welcome
	Reception and KS1 Nativity in Church (4.45pm drop) 5:00 - 6:30pm
Sunday 13 th	Nine Lesson Service in Church 6:00pm – choir to sing
Thursday 17 th	Christmas Party afternoon and Christmas Jumper day <i>Children will be in Christmas jumpers, no party clothes or food needed</i>

Friday 18 th	KS2 Carol Service in Church 9:30am – all parents/families welcome
	Last day of Term 2 early close 1:15pm

Please also refer to the **Key Dates Planner V1**, that includes all the dates that we know of for the academic year 2026/27 (at this point). 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 2026/27

19th, 20th and 21st October

4th January

Please Note

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

- **Friday 18th December**
- **Thursday 25th March**
- **Friday 23rd 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

Other things you might want to know...

Is your child due to start school in September 2027?

St Katharine's Primary School, Savernake is holding an open morning on Thurs 15th October 2026 from 9.30am to 11.30am.

Drop in and see our wonderful learners at work.

St Katharine's Primary School, Marlborough, Wiltshire, SN8 3BG
01672 870492



www.stkatharinesprimary.org.uk
admin@stkatharines.excalibur.org.uk



MARLBOROUGH KIDS FUN TRIATHLON

SAT 10TH JULY 2027
AT MARLBOROUGH COLLEGE WILTSHIRE

EVERYONE TAKES ON THE FULL TRIATHLON INDIVIDUALLY

FINISHERS MEDAL

FOR 5 TO 18 YEAR OLDS

INDOOR POOL SWIM

FLAT GRASS CYCLE

FLAT GRASS RUN

LOOKING FOR A FUN ACTIVE CHALLENGE FOR YOUR CHILD?

THE PERFECT WAY FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG ADULTS TO TAKE ON THEIR VERY OWN TRIATHLON IN A FRIENDLY, SUPPORTIVE AND NON COMPETITIVE ENVIRONMENT

YOUR CHILD CAN TAKE ON ANY DISTANCE THEY WANT!

AGE GROUP	EVENT	SWIM	BIKE	RUN
5-7 yrs	TIN	15m	1km	500m
6-8 yrs	ZINC	25m	1km	500m
8-11 yrs	STEEL	50m	2km	1km
10-13 yrs	BRONZE	50m	3km	1.5km
12-15 yrs	SILVER	100m	4km	2km
14-16 yrs	GOLD	150m	4km	2.5km
15-18 yrs	PLATINUM	200m	5km	3km

AGES DISPLAYED ARE JUST FOR GUIDANCE PURPOSES

UKTRIATHLON.CO.UK

Helping your child belong, learn and thrive at school.

School is about lessons but it's also where your child makes friends, gains confidence, finds new interests and develops skills for life.

Family life is busy and illness, medical appointments and other challenges can affect attendance.

That's why we're working with families and schools to help children get the most from their time at school.

Attending school every day helps your child make the most of learning, friendships and wider experiences.

Need support?

Contact your child's school or email the Education Welfare Service at EWS@wiltshire.gov.uk



Wiltshire Council

For the attention of all parents

Will your child be transferring to a secondary school in September 2027?

You must apply for a secondary school place

Apply online at wiltshire.gov.uk or complete an application form, available at all Wiltshire Council offices.

The deadline for applications is
12 midnight, 31 October 2026

All forms must be returned to the school admissions team at County Hall, Trowbridge, Wiltshire.

Contact customer services on **01225 713010** for more information or to request our guide to finding a secondary school place in Wiltshire.

Wiltshire Council

For the attention of all parents

Will your child be four years old before September 2027?

You must apply for a primary school place

Apply online at wiltshire.gov.uk or complete an application form, available at all Wiltshire Council offices.

The deadline for applications is
12 midnight, 15 January 2027

All forms must be returned to the school admissions team at County Hall, Trowbridge, Wiltshire.

Contact customer services on **01225 713010** for more information or to request our guide to finding a primary school place in Wiltshire.

Wiltshire Council

Braeside Education Centre



October Half Term Activity Days!

£45 per day

Adventure - Challenge - Fun

For ages: 8 - 12 years

(Siblings up to 14 years)

Drop Off - 8:30am - 9:00am

Pick Up - 4:30pm - 5:00pm

Thursday 22nd -
Climbing Wall,
Zip - Wire,
Archery,
Life-line



Monday 26th -
Climbing Wall,
Zip - Wire,
Abseiling,
Team Building

Tuesday 27th -
Canoeing
Themed Biscuit Decorating
High Ropes



Please book online by visiting

www.braeside-education.co.uk/holiday-club

Contact us for more details;

01380 722637

info@braeside-education.co.uk

Braeside Education Centre

Activities will run in groups, in rotation, throughout the day.

Still time to book on!

BRAND NEW TEAM

Children who started school in September

Year R

Saturday mornings 10-11am

Coach David

5 sessions - only £10

Starting 27th September

play • Learn • Grow



BRAND NEW GIRLS TEAM

Girls starting school in September

With Coach Maggie

Tuesdays from 3:45 - 4:30.

Pewsey Vale Youth Football Club

£20 for the season (Now until May 2027)

Starting 22nd September

Email pvyfc.secretary@outlook.com to sign up



Autumnal days in TreeHouse

Come and join us for glorious days at our Holiday Club, packed with adventures and experiences to remember



Breakfast After School & Holiday Club

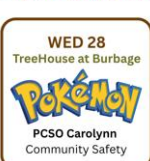
October Holiday Club 2026

Opening Times: 8:30am - 5:00pm
£45.75 + activity supplements *

Special Visitors:

Monday 26 - Line Dancing with B-Fit
Wednesday 28 - PCSO Carolyn

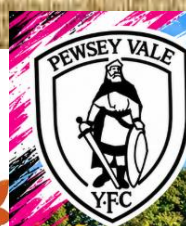
Each day there will be a new theme with lots of activities and crafts



Location:

Out & About - Sunflowers at Grafton, The Green, East Grafton, SN8 3DB
TreeHouse at Burbage - Burbage Primary School, Blackman's Ln, Burbage SN8 3TP

To book places, or for more information, email treehouse@sunflowers-grafton.co.uk



YR3 GIRLS



TRAINING 5-6 ON A TUESDAY

AT PEWSEY PITCHES

PVYFC





STREET TAG Wiltshire Council

ATTENTION WILTSHIRE

Get Active & Win Prizes!

Sign up to Street Tag

Collect virtual tags, while walking, running, cycling, scooting or rolling in your wheelchair to accumulate points via the Street Tag App. Climb the Leaderboard!!!

FREE APP

How To Join:

- Download and install the app from the Play Store or App Store.
- Open the app and tap Sign up.
- Enter your phone number and create a password.
- Tap Continue.
- Select Community Leaderboard and tap Continue.
- Skip Team QR by selecting No.
- Choose Wiltshire as your location and circuit.
- Enter your postcode.
- Tap Sign up to complete registration.
- Verify your account using the OTP sent to your phone.

WILTSHIRE COMMUNITY LEADERBOARD DATES & PRIZES

DATE:
Season 1- 2nd March to 25th May, 12pm
Season 2- 22nd June to 16th Oct, 12pm

PRIZE:
Amazon Vouchers

1st - £100
2nd - £75
3rd - £50
4th to 10th - £25 per team

STREET TAG Google Play App Store

H5 holiday club Active Fun Friends

OCTOBER HALF TERM HOLIDAY CLUB

MONDAY 26TH OCTOBER - FRIDAY 30TH OCTOBER 2026

TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE 10% SIBLING DISCOUNT

ACTIVITIES INCLUDE:

- Outdoor Activities (8-14 years)**
- Children's Activities (5-8 years)**
- New adventures, new skills, new friends!**
- Caving, Climbing, Canoeing & More!**

PRICE £325 for the week or £70 per day (if not registered)
Bring a packed lunch and snacks.

CHILD CARE VOUCHERS Accepted

Join us at MARLBOROUGH COLLEGE!

DATES Monday 26th October - Friday 30th October 2026

TIMES 09:45 - 17:00

Scan the QR code to visit our website and book now!

www.h5holidayclub.com

MARLBOROUGH COLLEGE
Email: inquiry@h5adventures.com
Mobile: 07545 127 085

Braeside's Able, Gifted, Talented and Enrichment course pack for Autumn/Winter 2026-2027 is available. These courses will run from October 2026 - March 2027.

All details of individual courses can be obtained from our website, as well as a full downloadable pdf version of the whole booklet. Please visit [AGT & E Courses - Braeside Education Centre \(braeside-education.co.uk\)](http://AGT & E Courses - Braeside Education Centre (braeside-education.co.uk))

Braeside have a website which enables parents/carers/schools to book spaces on our courses by either;

- Completing the online application form on our website www.braeside-education.co.uk
(Website applicants will need to be given a booklet's reference code by the school)
- Sending paper application forms to the following address:
AGTE Coordinator
Braeside Education Centre
Bath Road
Devizes
SN10 2AP