



St Catherine's C of E School Spring 2 Newsletter 5- 17.3.17

Dear Parents,

The term is rapidly drawing to a close but we have a busy last couple of weeks. Look out in the diary dates below for any events that involve your child. **If you are intending to book into our new after-school provision please send forms in ASAP.**

School Improvement

One of our key priorities here at St Catherine's is to improve outcomes for all children regardless of their background or ability. This week Mrs Warner and I attended a conference all about ways in which schools are achieving this for pupils who are disadvantaged and may need extra support in school to achieve well. What is great about all of the strategies is that they work for all children so that the initiatives we are putting in place here at school will actually raise attainment and improve progress for every child in the school. To see more about this please see our academy improvement plan and self-evaluation on the school website. Speaking to the children in year 2 this week, they told me about their learning...**"We have been acting out The Town and Country Mouse. I was the town mouse." Rennimae. "In maths we are learning about inverse operation for multiplication and division. I think that in multiplication the answer always ends in the biggest number and division always starts with the biggest number."** Darcey.

Friends of St Catherine's

Coming up tomorrow (Saturday 18th March) is our Spring Fete. This will run in the school from 10am to 12.30pm. We are still looking for a few volunteers to help with setting up and packing away if you are able to help please let Rachel know. At the fete there will be tea, coffee, cakes, games and a variety of stalls. It will be great to see you there supporting our school fund-raising. Donations of cakes for the cake stall and raffle will be warmly welcomed.

Chartwells

As you know, we purchase our hot school meals provision from Chartwells. They employ our kitchen staff and since the previous cook has left have had to put temporary cover in. We have had several complaints from children about the standard of the food during these two weeks and I have passed all of these concerns to Chartwells' managers who apologise profusely for this. Our new kitchen staff have started this week and so hopefully we'll see a great improvement. I will continue to monitor the situation so please do let us know if you have any continuing concerns.

SPAG term of the week:

An adverbial is a word or phrase that is used, like an adverb, to modify a verb or clause. Of course, [adverbs](#) can be used as adverbials, but many other types of words and phrases can be used this way, including [preposition phrases](#) and [subordinate clauses](#).

The *bus leaves* [in five minutes](#). [preposition phrase as adverbial: modifies *leaves*]

She promised to see him [last night](#). [noun phrase modifying either *promised* or *see*, according to the intended meaning]

She worked [until she had finished](#). [subordinate clause as adverbial]

Adverbials can add extra info such as 'when, where or how'.

Links for further info

Don't forget, you can access information about the school via our website:

<http://www.stcatherinescofe.co.uk/index.php> and twitter: [@StCathsAndaras](https://twitter.com/StCathsAndaras)

Parent View

Thank you to everyone who responded to our recent parent satisfaction survey. The results are now published on the website with our response to any issues raised. What was fantastic was the level of positive responses to what we are doing. Hopefully, we can now use your responses to continue to make St Catherine's a great school. <http://www.stcatherinescofe.co.uk/index.php/information-general/achievement-attainment-and-progress> On this link you will also find the results of a pupil perception survey we have begun to carry out termly. Teachers use their individual class results to create an action plan for class improvement. As a parent of a child in our school you can complete an online survey for our school at any time via Ofsted Parent View <https://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk/>

ADMAT Events

Year 2 and the Reception Class have now attended their whole academy event at Windmill Hill School. The year 1 event has been postponed due to staff illness at Windmill Hill but they will attend a summer term one at St Stephen's. Year 6 and Year 3 have events coming up.

Safer Internet Talk

Our Internet talk by Police Community Support Office, Steve Stoppard took place on Thursday. Thank you to everyone who attended, I hope it provided some useful information and advice.

Red Nose Day

Red Nose Day is next Friday (24th), children can come dressed in non-uniform and bring in a joke to share (and wear a Red Nose if wanted!) for a donation (suggested amount £1) for Comic Relief.

Parents' Meetings

During the next week class teachers are holding parents' meetings to discuss your child's progress and attainment. Letters have been sent home from each class and you can either book through returning the slip on the letter or on the sign-up sheets each class has. You will have a chance to look through your child's work during these meetings. If you are unable to attend at the times offered please see your child's teacher to arrange an alternative time.

Parental Engagement Sessions

Each term, to welcome parents into school, we hold parental engagement sessions in each class. This is an opportunity for you to take part in learning activities with your child and see a little bit about a day in their school life. KS1 and reception held cooking events last half term. This half-term Yr4 will be inviting parents to join a forest school session, Yr3 to see a dance performance, yr5 a design project and yr6 is holding a WWII themed day. Letters will come home from each class to invite you to these events. Dates are in the diary list below.

Attendance

In-line with government expectations and other schools nationally, we are continuing to work hard on improving attendance in the school as it has such an impact on children's learning and progress. Following advice from our Educational Welfare Officer, who monitors attendance in the school, we will not authorise term time holidays unless in exceptional circumstances. Our whole school target is 95% - this includes lateness which is marked as unauthorised after 9.20am. The last week's attendance percentages are:

Reception	91.1%	Whole School Attendance	
Year 1	95%		
Year 2	96.7%		
Year 3	99.3%		
Year 4	91.4%		94.7%
Year 5	93.7%		
Year 6	95.5%		

A reminder that absence for reasons other than the child's illness or medical appointment do go down as unauthorised.

Children of the Week

Values in Action Children of the fortnight:

Reception: Skye and Finlee
Class 1: Scarlett and Anna
Class 2: Olivia and Rennimae
Class 3: Morwenna and Jayden
Class 4: Ruby and Zack
Class 5: Connor, Nathan and Olivia
Class 6: Saffron and Erin

Good Learner Children of the fortnight:

Reception: Dominic and Louie
Class 1: Ethan and Tommie-Lee
Class 2: Oliver and Sasha
Class 3: Reece and Jamie
Class 4: Jessica and Emily
Class 5: Lonan and Gracie-Mae
Class 6: Jessica M and Alex

Dates for the Diary

Tuesdays: Yr 3 Swimming	30.3.17 Yr 3 Trust Event
Wednesdays: Yr 4 Forest School	30.3.17 Yr 6 Parental Engagement Session – WWII Day
18.3.17 – Friends Spring Fete	30.3.17 Yr 3 Parental Engagement Session
Wk Beginning 20.3.17 Parents' Meetings	30.3.17 Last day of Spring Term
22.3.17 Community Lunch	31.3.17 INSET DAY – no pupils in school – staff training at Windmill Hill School
22.3.17 Yr 5 Bloodhound Race Day Trip	Easter Hols: back on Tues 18.4.17
22.3.17 Yr 4 Parental engagement Session	19.4.17 Yr 2 and Yr 6 SATS meeting after school
24.3.17 Red Nose Non-Uniform Day	20.4.17 9am Reception and Nursery Easter Bonnet Parade
27.3.17 Yr5 Parental Engagement Session	21.4.17 Yrs 1-6 Easter Service at St Mary's Church 2.15-3.15pm
27.3.17 Julius Caesar Rehearsal	
28.3.17 Julius Caesar Performance – Hall for Cornwall	
29.3.17 Yr 6 Trust Event	

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Louise Hussey

Head of School