



St Catherine's C of E School

Executive Headteacher: Mrs Louise Hussey

Head of School: Ms Pippa Warner

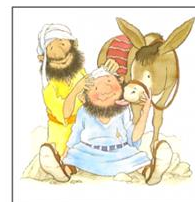
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St Catherine's Newsletter - Autumn 2

"At St Catherine's Church of England School, we strive to educate our children to realise their aspirations and to contribute positively to society guided by our Christian principles."



Confirmed Diary Dates:

Autumn Half Term holiday: Monday 26th October to Friday 30th October

Autumn 2nd Half Term: Monday 2nd November – Friday 18th December

Spring 1st Half Term: Tuesday 5th January -Friday 12th February

Spring Half Term Holiday: Monday 15th February – Friday 19th February

Spring 2nd Half Term: Monday 22nd February – Thursday 1st April

Easter Holiday: Friday 2nd April – Friday 16th April

Summer 1st Half Term: Monday 19th April

Values in Action Awards

These are our Values in Action Role Models:

Reception:-Elsie-responsibility:-Lyra-courage:-
Matilda-compassion

Class1:-Nairi-courage:-Harper-generosity:-
Ethan-responsibility

Class2:-Ella-May-friendship:-Darius-
compassion:-Lily-M-generosity

Class3:-Ethan-forgiveness:-Leah-friendship:-
Jessica-courage

Class4:-Alexandra-courage:-Bella-compassion:-
Noah-respect

Class5:-Tiffanie-friendship:-Frankie-
compassion:-Megan-responsibility

Class6:-Natalia-respect:-Melissa-service:-
Amelia-respect

Learners of the Week Awards

These are our star learners:

Reception:-Freddie-resourceful:-Jacob-
resourceful:-Riley-resilience

Class1:Harvey-responsibility:-Brody-resilience:-
Skylar-resourceful

Class2:-Tuscan-responsibility:-Theo-resilience:-
Lydia-resilience

Class3:-Jamie-responsibility:-Tabby-resilience:-
Konrad-responsibility

Class4:-Josh-reflectiveness:-Louie-
reflectiveness:-Eleanor-responsibility

Class5:-Lola-responsibility:-Ellierose-resilience:-
Toby-resilience

Class6:-Blake-responsibility:-Oliver-
reflectiveness:-Bertie-respect

GOOD NEWS!! Well done to our Environment Focus Group

We are very pleased and proud to let you know that all the hard work of our Environment Focus Group, which began last year before lockdown, has been rewarded with a grant of £500 towards creating a bee hive within the school grounds.

6th October 2020



Dear St Catherine's School Council,

Congratulations, you are the winners of the CAPH Think BIG competition 2020!

The judges loved your idea to **create a buzz** by keeping bees in your school grounds. It is really original and will be such an exciting project for the whole school community to get involved with.

Your poster was really creative, with fantastic artwork. Your video really made us smile 😊. How fantastic are the honeycomb dancers and what amazing bee knowledge from Bee Keeper Honey! We think you are going to have very happy bees!

As well as helping your school community, you will also be helping the environment by providing much needed habitat for bees to keep them safe.

We will contact your school office to make sure you get the £500 safely so you can start creating a buzz as soon as possible!

Please can we have a jar of honey?

Well done to all the pupils who have taken part in this wonderful Think BIG pitch.

All the best

Katie

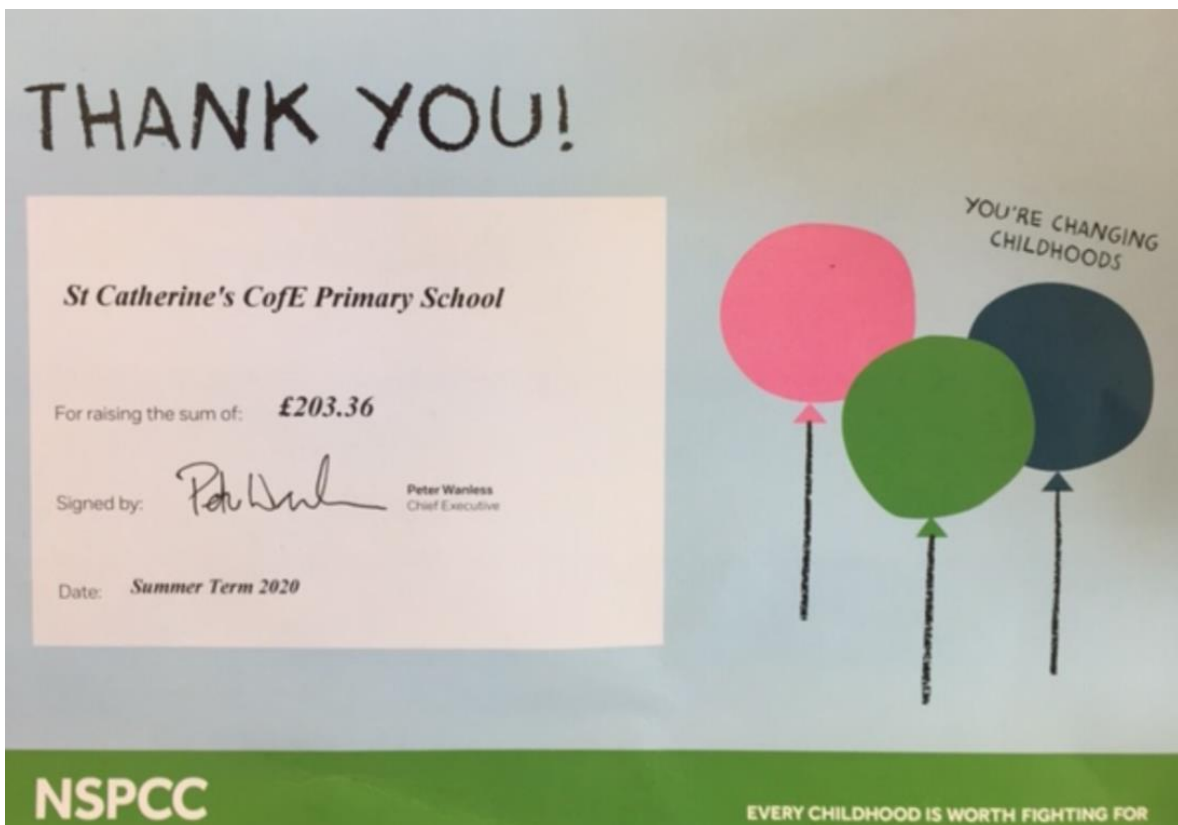
Katie Chandler
On behalf of all the CAPH team.

We would like to say a really big THANK YOU to Mrs Parish, who leads this group and worked so hard to help the children create their presentation and make their bid, and of course to all the wonderful children in the group who were just brilliant! We are really looking forward to creating and caring for our bee colony - excellent learning opportunities for all the children and vital support to our native bee population!



More Thanks!

We have just been sent a certificate to thank us for our contributions, given last year following a presentation by the NSPCC, that provided the children with important knowledge and skills around keeping themselves safe. Many thanks to all our families for supporting this valuable charity.



Curriculum Focus Times Tables – Skills for Life

As you are all aware, learning **times tables remains a really high priority** across all primary schools, especially with the expectation that children will know all tables by the end of



Year Four. This is a very challenging target for many of our children and to achieve it we need an active, positive partnership between school and home, offering frequent and varied tables practice opportunities.

There are many ways you can **encourage your children at home: quick fire challenges; written practice; card games; real life opportunities; Times Tables Rockstars; other on line interactive multiplication games; tables grids; timed challenges** etc.

“Many educators don’t dispute the fact that knowing times tables is a ‘good thing’.

Interactive online activities are already popular in maths classes, and have proven an engaging tool for children to develop fluency in applying their maths knowledge. Regularly including online times tables activities in lessons and at home is one way to ensure that children practise the skills needed in a low stakes environment.

For depth of learning, it is also important that children are given the opportunity to see, explore, and understand the mathematical structures and patterns that lie beneath. Really knowing and being able to apply these facts (and their inverse - up to 12x12) means that working memory is freed up, leaving space to process and think more about new mathematical ideas. With this in mind, offering a range of activities and contexts to support practice and application of pupils’ growing knowledge of times table facts is crucial.

Learning opportunities that draw on real-life scenarios, combined with those that utilise interactive and online activities, really encourage the development of fluency and support every child on their journey to truly ‘knowing’ times table facts.”

**(MyMaths.co.uk the
Importance of Fluency in
Times Tables)**



Revised Times for Classes to Enter and Leave School

Thank you for all your support with our morning and afternoon arrangements. You have all been so efficient and helpful with your efforts to move around the school safely and in accordance with social distancing protocol that we feel able to reduce the times between classes even further, which will hopefully make life easier for all, but especially for families with two or more children.



Times:

Reception/Year 3/Year 6 – start at 8:45am and leave at 3:05pm

Year 1 and Year 4 – start at 8:50am and leave at 3:10pm

Year 2 and Year 5 – start at 8:55am and leave at 3:15pm

Nursery – start at 9:00am and leave at 3:00pm

Please **try to arrive at you allotted time**. If you are early, can we ask that you do not come up to the gates until your time so that parents and children for earlier slots can get through.

Only **ONE parent** should enter the school site to drop and collect.

Please keep the car park clear at all times for exiting parents - I'm afraid children cannot play or congregate here. This includes our year 6s, who if walking should be exiting the site as soon as released.

Please remember the **'rule of 6'** - this includes all children and families even on the school run.

Please try **to observe the social distancing rules** and respect others' space when queuing. We have provided labels along the pathways to help you achieve this.

As time goes on it can be easy to become a little complacent about the rules in place, but it is essential we maintain strict observance if we are to continue to protect our own and others' safety through the Covid pandemic.

Many thanks.



For your information:

We have been informed of a coming road closure whilst Wales and West Utilities complete some essential works.

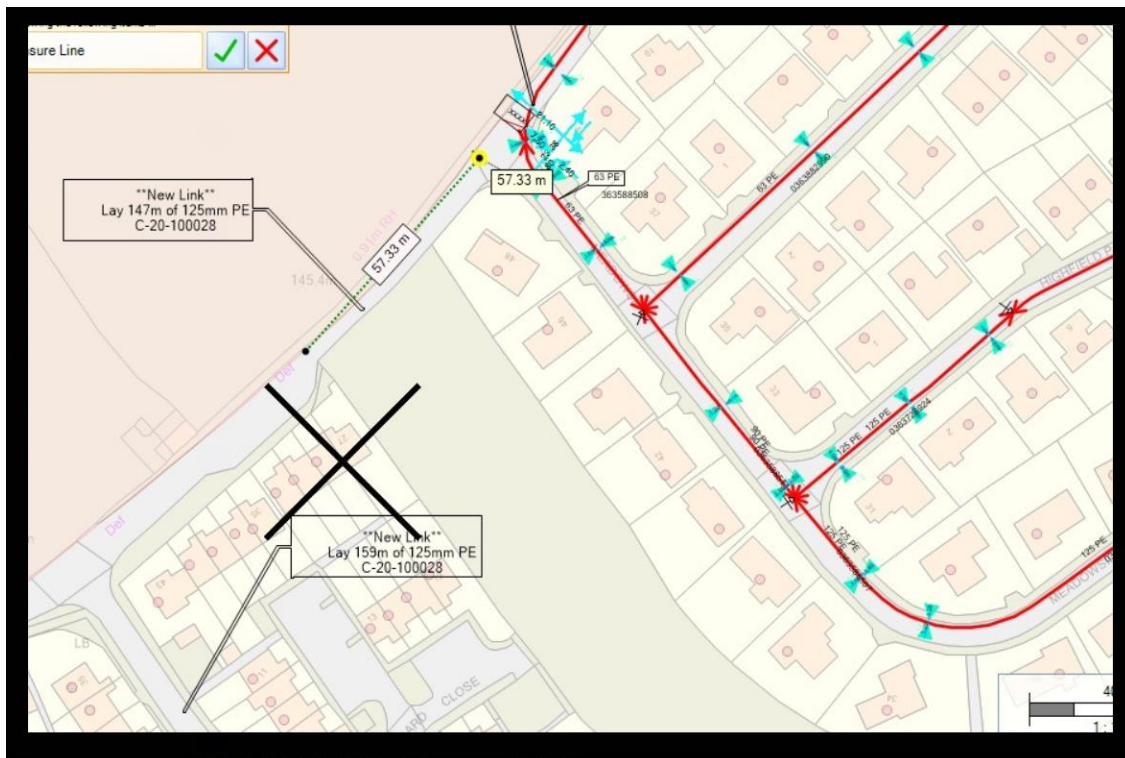
Wales and West Utilities will be carrying out the gas works to reinforce the network in the area to secure the future gas supply.

The section affected by the closure is at the top of Moorland Road (see attached photo, shown by the dotted line).

The 57.3m section will be closed from Saturday 14 to Wednesday 18 November.

From 19 to 25 November 2 way lights will be in place.

This close to our school and as regularly used at drop off and pick up times on the school run this may cause some added congestion.



As always, we remain thankful for all your continued help and support that enables us, even in these challenging times, to continue to work together to achieve the very best we all can for all our children. Stay safe and well everyone.

Ms Pippa Warner – Head of School

