



Monday 13th November 2023

Dear Parents/ Carers,

It has been an extremely busy two weeks, and the children have well and truly hit the ground running since returning from the half term holidays. We have had Monsters' Balls, Open Mornings, our Year 6 Remembrance Assembly and our first ever Achievement Awards, where families were invited into school to celebrate their child's successes this term.

We will be running Achievement Assemblies every half term, and children will be selected by their teachers for showing excellence in an area of the curriculum or continually demonstrating the school values. It was lovely to invite parents/ carers into the school to be part of the awards ceremony and I look forward to seeing many more of you throughout the course of the year.

Congratulations to the following children, who received a certificate during the Achievement Assembly:

- **Nursery:** Lucy
- **Reception:** Matilda, Violet & Jemima
- **Year 1:** Adele & Isaiah
- **Year 2:** Lyla, Harlow
- **Year 3:** Freya, Abigail & Albe
- **Year 4:** Esmae & Scarlett
- **Year 5:** Ethan, Izzy & Noah
- **Year 6:** Saraya & Sophie



Below are a few example slides from the presentation:

Jemima - Reception

For always demonstrating excellent behaviour and always trying her best in lessons.

Isaiah – Year 1

For consistently displaying all the school values. You are a wonderful role model for the school.

Abigail – Year 3

For showing excellence in music by beautifully singing a solo that brought joy to those who were listening.

Scarlett – Year 4

For her constant active participation during lessons and excellent effort. She always tries her best and it is really showing in her learning!

Saraya – Year 6

For always showing excellence and resilience in everything she does and constantly producing work of a very high standard.



Pupil Voice: *"I was really excited to get a certificate for my singing in the Achievement Assembly."* (Abigail – Year 3). Please click on the link to hear Abigail singing Che Che Kule, which is a Swahili song, from the country Ghana, that she has been learning and performing during her music lessons: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1yJQKMLc5pNXFNLwHMeNwSO7jIj2nYZn3/view?usp=sharing>

School Video

We are delighted to inform you that our new school video has been completed. We believe that it captures the very essence of St Katherine's – a nurturing school with high expectations for all, an engaging curriculum offer and a closely knit school community. The video will be uploaded to the website next week, but you can view it by clicking on the following link: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1x7JKDxAUi5J8G1yG0-bfAV4HLqgP7bQ5/view?usp=sharing>



Reading Vending Machine Winners



Congratulations to Priya, Hettie and Lily-Rose, who were drawn from the St Katherine's hat to become our very first reading vending machine winners. Each one of them, along with one child from every class, were awarded a raffle ticket by their teacher for their efforts in reading. This includes consistently reading at home, making good progress at school or helping others to read. Raffle tickets are then drawn from EYFS, KS1 and KS2. The next vending machine book raffle will take place on Friday 17th November. Good luck and keep reading!

Pupil Voice: *"It was exciting getting a book."* (Priya – Year 1)

"The book vending machine is great! I got a book as I was chosen in the raffle for improving my reading. I got a Harry Potter book as JK Rowling is my favourite author." (Lily-Rose – Year 6)



Remembrance Assembly

Year 6 led an extremely moving Remembrance Day Assembly today. Their presentation, which included the use of song, poem and readings, made us all reflect on the bravery of men and women, who sacrificed so much for their countries around the world.

Please click on the link below to listen to our Year 6 children performing a song that was used during their presentation: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1DHCyLw-i4nW-hgAczSYZkatGGz5o6Fom/view?usp=sharing>



Pupil Voice: "I was nervous to speak but I knew that I would be remembering those who have died in all the wars. It is important to remember and wear a poppy to show this." (Micky – Year 6)



Artwork

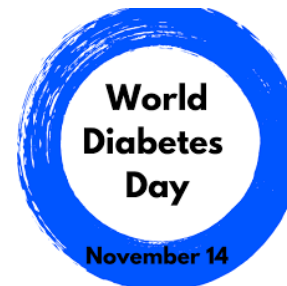
A number of children, throughout the school, worked alongside Arty Party (a professional arts company) last week to create a stunning display piece for our reception area. The display reflects the school's vision that every child should be aspirational in everything they do. We are extremely pleased with the outcome and I would like to thank all the children for their efforts.



Diversity Ambassadors - Odd Socks Day

Our newly formed Diversity Ambassadors have been busy discussing their important roles and responsibilities this week. Each individual is committed to promoting diversity throughout the school community and are eager to remind children of our 'Odd Socks Day', which takes place on Monday to celebrate individual uniqueness and to also launch Anti-bullying Week.

They will also be presenting an assembly on Wednesday to mark National Diabetes Day, to help children develop their knowledge of Type 1 diabetes and gain an understanding of what people, including some of our own children, have to do in order to manage it.



Children in Need

Please note that we will be showing our support for Children in Need **on Friday 17th November by having a Non-uniform Day**. We kindly ask that children come to school in spots or yellow (if possible), to get behind this excellent charity. If you would like to donate, please click on the following link, which will take you directly to the Children in Need Website:

<https://donate.bbcchildreninneed.co.uk/>

Christmas Fair

We are excited to announce that our PTA are currently making arrangements for our Christmas Fair, which will take place at school on the **Saturday 2nd December**. In order to raise sufficient funds for the event, **we will be holding a non-uniform day on Friday 1st December**. For this, we will be asking children to bring in £1 donation into school. More details about the Christmas Fair will follow shortly.



Football Tournament

Congratulations to our talented boys football team who won our first 'silverware' of the year by finishing a very respectable third position in a borough tournament last week. Everyone showed excellent teamwork and represented the school superbly throughout the competition. Well done!



Forest School

Year 1 have thoroughly enjoyed participating in Forest School this week. The children have been exploring our extensive outdoor area and developing key skills through a range of activities, such as climbing, mud painting and the identification of trees and birds.



Pupil Voice: "I enjoyed holding onto the rope so my friends can climb." (Kieran – Year 1)

*"My favourite part was making a swing. I enjoyed learning how to make a knot."
(Daniel – Year 1)*

A Fond Farewell

We say goodbye to Mrs White (Year 2 Teaching Assistant) today, after many years of excellent service at St Katherine's. During her time at the school, she has supported many children and I would like to thank her for years of commitment and dedication. We wish her all the best as she starts her new adventures.

Parent Teacher Association

Monsters' Ball

Thank you to the PTA for organising the Monsters' Balls last week. They were a ROARING success, with both the children and staff making an excellent effort with their costumes. I was incredibly impressed with the children's enthusiasm, behaviour and dance moves; fun was had by all! It was difficult to take photographs of the children during the events, so here is a picture of some of the staff, who went all out on the day!



Pupil Voice: "I enjoyed the ball especially when we all played Zombie statues and it was great to see all the teachers dressed up!" (Evie-Grace – Year 4)

Quiz Night

The next PTA event will be the Parent Quiz Night, which takes place on **Friday 24th November from 6.30pm – 9.00pm in the school hall**. We are looking for teams of 6 to come and pit their wits against each other – including a staff quiz team! **You can book a table for £30 or buy individual tickets which cost £5 per person. Smaller teams will be asked to join together to make a team of six.** Parents/ carers are asked to bring their own nibbles and drinks.

Why not come along, let your hair down and participate in a range of team games, quiz rounds and raffles? **Tickets can be purchased via school money and can be found under 'shop item'**. We kindly ask that **all tickets are purchased by Wednesday 22nd November**. We look forward to a fun night of general knowledge and laughs.



School Social Media Posts

Please note that **we will no longer be using X (formerly known as Twitter) as a platform to share learning from across the school.** However, we will be continuing to use Facebook, whilst we consider the best way to share children's learning and school experiences on social media, in the future. You can view our weekly posts by visiting our Facebook Page via the link below.

<https://www.facebook.com/stkatherinessnodland>

Please note that year groups will endeavour to alternate the focus of their posts so that every week a different class is showcased. This will ensure that there is fair coverage across all classes over a two or three-week period. The Reception team will post more frequently so that parents are kept up-to-date with learning both in the classroom and across the continuous provision.

Attendance Winner Wheels

At the end of each half term, children are entered into two attendance draws to win the chance to participate in a pool party or choose a family activity at Mote Park Leisure Centre.



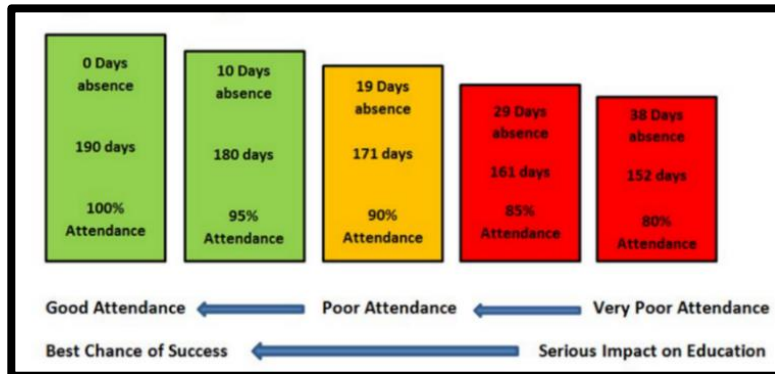
Children qualify for the pool party draw if they have maintained 100% attendance in any one week of the half term.

Children qualify for the Mote Park Leisure Centre draw if they have maintained a 97% – 100% attendance throughout the half term.

Congratulations to all our Attendance Winners for Term 1:

Year Group	Winner
Year 1	Oscar F
Year 2	Finley C
Year 3	Jacob R
Year 4	Lola V
Year 5	Maisie S
Year 6	Henry C
Whole School	Erin S

Attendance Matters!







Year	Classes		
N	Acorn 99%		
R	Bramley 96%	Gala 98%	Pippin 97%
1	Peach 99%	Pear 93%	
2	Cherry 90%	Quince 97%	
3	Almond 94%	Hazel 88%	Walnut 95%
4	Spruce 93%	Pine 87%	
5	Cedar 93%	Teak 96%	Mahogany 91%
6	Ash 93%	Oak 90%	

School Target: 96%
Whole School Attendance: 93.5%

House Points

This week's House Point totals are as follows:

House	Total
Air 	986
Earth 	693
Fire 	734
Water 	864



Key Dates

EVENT	DATE
Anti-bullying Week	W/B 13 th November
Odd Socks Day	Monday 13 th November
Children in Need (non-uniform)	Friday 17 th November
PTA Quiz Night	Friday 24 th November: 6.30pm – 9.00pm
The Dogs Trust Assembly & Workshops	W/B 27 th November
Scholastic Book Fair	Monday 27 th – Thursday 30 th November
Parent Workshop Reading KS2	Wednesday 29 th November
Christmas Fair (more details to follow)	Saturday 2 nd December
Christmas Jumper Day (Save the Children)	Friday 8 th December
EYFS Christmas Concert to Parents	Friday 8 th December – AM
Christmas Dinner	Friday 8 th December
CRIBS company Christmas Performance	Monday 11 th December – AM
KS1 Christmas Performance	Tuesday 12 th and Wednesday 13 th December at 2pm
Christmas Party	Friday 15 th December
End of Term	Friday 15 th December

Have a lovely week.

Mr. Lang
Headteacher