



Friday 4th October 2024

Dear Parents/ Carers,

We have now surpassed the mid-way point of the term – doesn't time fly when you're having fun? After five weeks of fabulous learning, the children continue to amaze me with their achievements, resilience and the progress they are making across the curriculum.

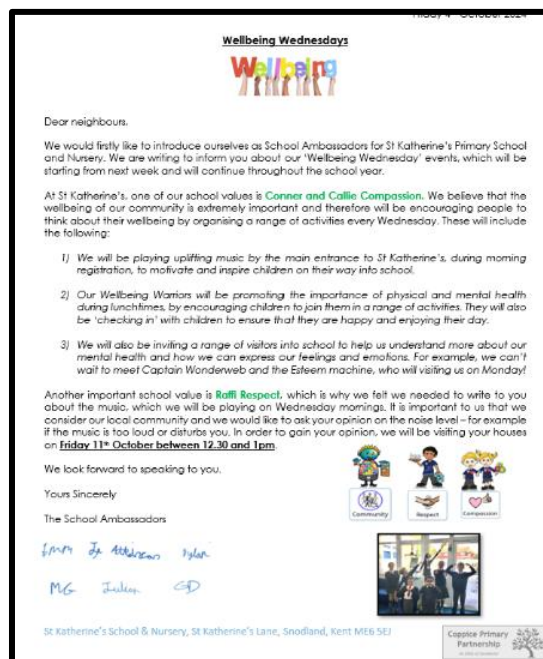
Wellbeing Wednesdays

At St Katherine's, the wellbeing of our school community is incredibly important to us. Our staff wellbeing team meet regularly to discuss strategies and initiatives to help with work-life balance, whilst our curriculum supports children to develop their understanding of mental health. We also have a number of mechanisms in place to support children's wellbeing, such as our Wellbeing Warriors, worry boxes, regulation pots, Mylo (our Mentor Dog) and our nurture facility, to name but a few.

A new initiative that that we would like to trial on Wednesdays, to coincide with the launch of this year's Wellbeing Warriors, is to play uplifting music outdoors during morning registration. Research suggests that music can have a profound impact on mood regulation. For example, lullabies are sometimes used to soothe younger children and upbeat songs can often lift our spirits. We aspire for all of our children to come into school as happy and motivated learners, and we would like to trial playing some 'morning music', by the lower playground, to evaluate what impact this has on children as they come into school.

Of course, we appreciate that we have a responsibility to ensure that our music doesn't disturb our neighbours, so our School Ambassadors have written to them to explain the purpose behind our new Wednesday 'morning music'. **Please click on the image below to read their letter.**

We look forward to hearing feedback from children, parents and the wider school community.



World Mental Health Day

To celebrate World Mental Health Day, we have two key events occurring next week:

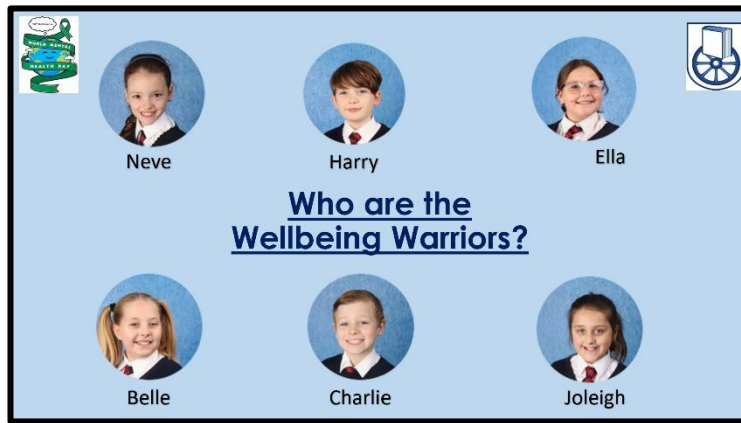
National Captain Wonderweb and the Esteem Machine

Children from Reception to Year 6 will be experiencing the wonderful world of Captain Wonderweb and the Esteem Machine, who will provide interactive workshops to develop children's understanding about healthy living. This will include a focus on healthy eating, exercise, sleep and mental health. Please click on the following [link](#) to view a short video from Captain Wonderweb. We look forward to sharing some pictures of the workshops in our next newsletter.



Wellbeing Warriors

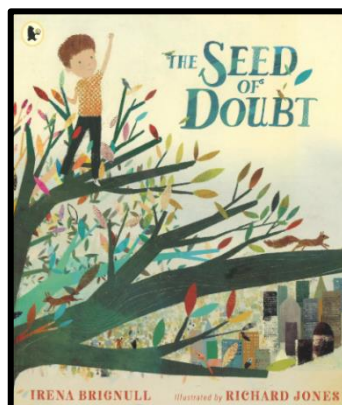
Additionally, our Wellbeing Warriors will lead an assembly on Mental Health and how to look after your own wellbeing.



Pupil Voice: *"I am proud to be a Wellbeing Warrior as I can take care of people and make sure everyone is happy in school."* (Neve – Year 6)

Assembly

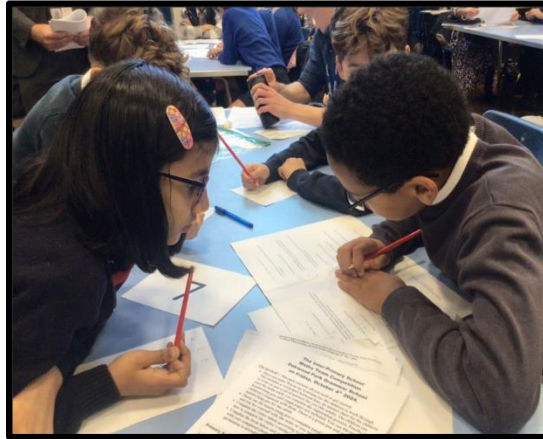
My assembly this week focused on having high aspirations and related to all of our school values. I used the picture book 'The Seed of Doubt' to model why it is important to aim high, even though the journey may be challenging and you may doubt yourself along the way. Please click on the following [link](#) to access the assembly.



Pupil Voice: *"I have high aspirations because and I want to achieve in my learning."* (Carson – Year 5)

Maths Competition

A small number of our Year 6 children competed in a local maths competition today, which involved working together to answer a range of mathematical reasoning questions. As always, our children represented the school superbly and thoroughly enjoyed their experience. Well done for all of your efforts and thank you to Mr Tweddle and Mrs Chapman for taking the team.



Pupil Voice: *"I enjoyed the logic questions because they were challenging but we persevered through!"* (Julian – Year 6)

Cross Country

Miss Hopkins (a PE specialist that works with staff and children at St Katherine's) has been leading a running club this term, for children in Years 1 & 2, in preparation for some of our athletes to participate in a borough cross country event, which took place today at Mote Park.

Our children were extremely enthusiastic, resilient and showed wonderful sportsmanship and fitness, enabling them to successfully complete the course.

Congratulations to everyone who participated in the event. The overall scores will be announced next week.



Pupil Voice: *"I found it tough but I didn't give up. I showed resilience."* (Eliza – Year 1)

MacMillan Coffee Sessions

Thank you to everyone that came to our Macmillan coffee events last week. The sessions were buzzing with people, who dropped in for a coffee, cake and a chat. In doing so, we raised a wonderful £368.52 for this incredible charity. Thank you to Mrs Aveling & Mr Barkaway for providing the prizes.

Raffle Prize Winners

Winners of the Macmillan Coffee Event Raffle	
Eliza	Year 3
Lincoln	Year 1
Leo	Year 5
Lavinia	Year 3
Lola	Year 5
Hollie	Year 5
Esmee	Year 5
Jasmine	Year 5
Mrs Cook	Year 5 LSA
Jasmine	Year 5



FriYay Doughnuts

Our first 'FriYay' doughnut sale went down a treat last week. Due to popular demand, the PTA organised an additional sale today, which was equally as popular. They are now considering ways that parents can pre-order boxes in advance, so this system in place for our next doughnut sale, which will take place on Thursday 24th October.

Thank you to members of the PTA and the School Ambassadors for running the stalls.



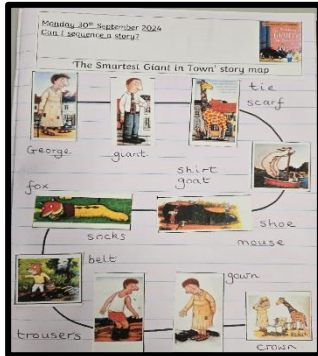
Parent Consultations

You will have received a letter regarding our forthcoming Parent Consultations, which is an opportunity for parents to look through their children's books and discuss learning and progress with their teachers. Please note that a link will be sent on Monday at 5.30pm, via 'Teachers to Parents, for parents to book their appointments.



Writing Development

Year 1 have had fun implementing aspects of our new writing approach. This involved story mapping and retelling events through symbols and actions. This strategy enables the children to begin to internalise the structure, style and vocabulary of the story, before they begin to write their own versions. Click on the [link](#) to view a short video clip of Peach Class learning the story through performance.



Staff Voice: *"The story map helps me put the story in my mind." (Harry)*
"I liked telling the story because the giant's trousers fell down." (Lacey-Mae)

Meet the Flo/ NHS 'Emotional Wellbeing Team'

Mrs Croucher, our Family Liaison Officer, and Megan from the NHS Emotional Wellbeing Team held an informal drop-in session this week to discuss the support on offer for children's emotional wellbeing and mental health. If you were unable to attend the session, please feel free to contact Mrs Croucher at school, or The NHS Foundation Trust (0300 555 1200 – www.nelft.nhs.uk).



E Safety

If you've played or seen any online games from the past few years, you've probably noticed that almost every title has some kind of chat functionality. Please click on the [link](#) to access some useful guidance relating to this feature.



Half Term Sports Camp

Tom, our Sports Coach, will be running a multi-sport holiday camp during the half term for **5 – 12 year olds**. The camp **will take place at St Katherine's** and children that attend the school will be given first priority with regards to booking.

If you have any questions about the sports camp, please contact Tom using the details below.

MONDAY 28TH OCTOBER ST KATHERINES PRIMARY SCHOOL TUESDAY 29TH OCTOBER

SPORTS FOR ALL TR

MULTI SPORT HOLIDAY CAMPS

Come along to our full day multi-sport holiday camps, ran by qualified sports coaches who are ready to provide you a day of fun!

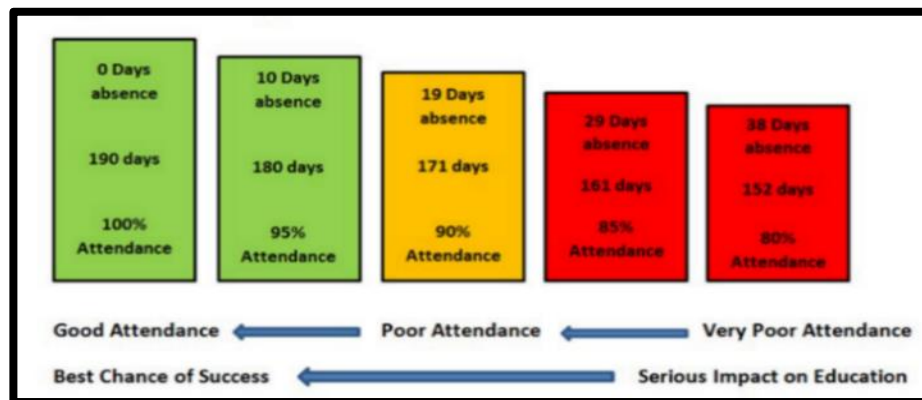
OFFER:
10% OFF WHEN YOU BOOK IN FOR BOTH MONDAY & TUESDAY!
BOOK IN WITH YOUR BROTHER OR SISTER AND GET 10% DISCOUNT

9AM-4PM
5 - 12 YEAR OLDS
£25 PER DAY

SCAN OUR QR CODE TO REGISTER NOW!

CONTACT US FOR MORE INFO: TRSPORTSFORALL@GMAIL.COM

Attendance Matters!



Weekly Attendance

Year	Classes		
N	Acorn 99%		
R	Bramley 98.2%	Gala 95.4%	
1	Peach 85.9%	Pear 89.9%	Plum 95.6%
2	Cherry 93.3%	Quince 93.5%	
3	Hazel 87%	Walnut 95.5%	
4	Spruce 90.1%	Pine 87.7%	Fir 94.4%
5	Cedar 90.3%	Teak 93.2%	
6	Ash 97.3%	Oak 91.9%	Elm 95.3%

School Target: 95%



Key Dates

EVENT	DATE
Captain Wonderweb and the Esteem Machine – Drama Presentations	Monday 7 th October
Steel Band Workshops (Years 1-6)	Tuesday 8 th October & Wednesday 9 th October
Phonics Parent Workshop	Tuesday 15 th October (2.30pm – 3.15pm) https://forms.office.com/e/JcTSpPReEP
Show Racism the Red Card	Thursday 17 th October <i>Children to wear red into school on this day.</i>
Maths Parent Workshop	Thursday 24 th October (2.30pm – 3.15pm) https://forms.office.com/e/ud97qvnDvf
Happy Shoes Day	Thursday 24 th October <i>Children to wear shoes that make them happy.</i>
Parents Consultation Meetings	Wednesday 23 rd & Thursday 24 th October – 3.45pm to 6.30pm
FriYay Doughnut Sale	Thursday 24 th October
INSET DAY	Friday 25th October Children are not in school on this day

Have a great weekend!
Mr. Lang